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1888 - 1925

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*HISTORY*  
OF THE  
**WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN  
TEMPERANCE UNION**  
OF  
INDIAN TERRITORY  
OKLAHOMA TERRITORY  
STATE *of* OKLAHOMA

COMPILED BY  
**ABBIE B. HILLERMAN**  
SAPULPA, OKLAHOMA

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MRS. ABBIE B. HILLERMAN  
Honorary State President.  
Sapulpa, Oklahoma



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## INTRODUCTION

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"Histories are strange things; they uncover so many hidden events and bring back so many lost memories. A history that traces a reform movement; that weaves the shuttle of memory in and out of the web of the past, and presents a perfect woof of fact and incident, is a treasury of knowledge that will not fail to delight and instruct."

In the compilation of such a history Annual Reports must be carefully searched, and sometimes in the early years of the Oklahoma Woman's Christian Temperance Union these were very meager.

It has been the earnest endeavor of the writer to make this an accurate record. Some things which should be recorded may be omitted, names and dates overlooked, but the chief thought of the writer of this history is to magnify the work, rather than the worker.

It is sent forth with the hope and prayer, that it will stimulate to greater endeavor, and more loyal service the members of the Oklahoma Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

To Mrs. Emma Miller and her co-workers in the early years is this history dedicated.

ABBIE B. HILLERMAN.

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## FOREWORD

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THIS organization has completed thirty-five years of service in Oklahoma, and it is most fitting that its record be put in permanent form. Of necessity this history must be brief, and record only the things of greatest importance.

There are a number of women in our ranks who were members of the first local unions and who are still working. They have seen the organization grow and develop until it has become a greater factor in moulding public sentiment in favor of State and National Prohibition, and law enforcement.

How much the W. C. T. U. has contributed to this change of public opinion may never be known, but steadfastly it has maintained its organization, steadfastly presented its cause to influential bodies. It stands side by side with the church on the demand for civic righteousness and purity of life.

The reflex influence upon those who have shared in the work has lifted the standard of womanhood in the state, and helped fit them for the duties and obligations of citizenship. It has made them more efficient workers in the church and better home-makers.

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union was the pioneer organization of women both in Indian Territory and Oklahoma, and blazed the way for other women's societies. It appeals to all women, for the sake of their homes and loved ones to unite and co-operate with the Woman's Christian Temperance Union in its fight against the liquor traffic, the home's worst enemy.

LILAH D. LINDSEY.

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*"Swiftly the busy years have winged their way  
As speeds the eager arrow in its course,  
So long at first they seemed; but now the day  
We entered, is as yesterday to us, the golden years,  
The swiftly passing years whose flight no hand can  
stay."*

—SELECTED.

# INDIAN TERRITORY HISTORY

1888

The history of the Cherokee Indians began in 1836. Perhaps no chapter in American history contains so much of pathos and tragedy as that one covering the forcible removal of the Cherokee Indians from their peaceable home in Georgia to the uninhabited land of Indian Territory. Gold had been discovered on their reservations in Georgia and the white man's greed prompted him to find a way to secure this Indian land.

Later the government made a treaty with them by allotting them land in Indian Territory in exchange for the land in Georgia.

There were 20,000 Cherokee Indians removed by teams and wagons furnished by the government. Their journey began at Athens, Georgia, in August, 1836, and lasted until January, 1837. They rode twenty in a wagon.

Chief Elijah Hicks was in command of the first thousand. Of this number 200 died on the way. They landed in Indian Territory in a snow storm, and great suffering prevailed. Jane Hicks, the eleven year old daughter of Chief Elijah Hicks, and granddaughter of famous Charles Hicks, was one of those who landed safely in the new country, where she was destined to play an important part in its history as the first president of the Indian Territory Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

These two chiefs and the early missionaries meant much to the Indians during the tribulation of 1836 and the hardships during those first years in a new country.

Jane Hicks attended the mission schools and later went to Lawrenceville, New Jersey, to complete her education.

In Wilmington, N. J., she met Mr. John W. Stapler, to whom she was afterwards married. He was a fine christian man of Quaker parentage. Chief John Ross' wife was his sister, also a member of the Friends Church.

The Staplers established a christian home at Tahlequah and to them were born two sons and two daughters. Mr. Stapler was the Indian merchant at Tahlequah, the capitol of the Cherokee country.

The five civilized tribes all later had allotments of land in the Indian Territory. Many white ribboners came from these tribes and faithfully and efficiently filled positions of trust and honor.

The Indian Territory has an area of 31,400 square miles. The tribes among which this territory has been appropriated include the Cherokees, Creeks, Seminoles, Choctaws, and Chickasaws in the eastern portion, and the Arapahos, Kiowas, Cheyennes, Comanches, Osages and a few scattered remnants in the western portion. In 1900, the Indian population was 391,960.

There are always a few outstanding characters in every community. Mrs. Stapler took an active interest in all christian work. She served as both teacher and superintendent of Sunday school. When Miss Frances Willard and Miss Anna Gordon visited Indian Territory in 1888 they recognized in Mrs. Stapler splendid leadership, and she was made president of the W. C. T. U. of Indian Territory. The organization was formed at Muskogee in July, 1888.

The first territorial convention was held at Tahlequah, June 4th, 1889, in Mrs. Jane Stapler's hospitable



MRS. L. JANE STAPLER  
Tahlequah  
First President Indian  
Territory



MRS. G. B. HESTER  
Muskegee  
Pioneer Indian Territory  
W. C. T. U.



home. Miss Willard and Miss Gordon were also guests in her home. The attendance was small, only two unions represented. Mrs. Stapler served in this capacity until 1899, when after eleven years as territorial president and twenty-four years as Sunday school superintendent she passed from active service to the life immortal.

Few records can be found covering the activities of those early years. Unions were organized at Muskogee, Tahlequah, Atoka, Vinita, Wagoner, Claremore, Pryor Creek and Poteau, where conventions were held during that period.

In 1899 at Pryor Creek a convention was held in January 11, 12, when Mrs. Eva E. Ratcliff of Vinita was elected president. Another convention was held in Poteau, September 26, 28, in the same year, 1899.

### *I 900*

In 1900 the convention met at Muskogee, October 2, 3, 4. Mrs. K. L. E. Murrow of Atoka was elected territorial president. During this year the union sustained a great loss in the death of the faithful vice-president, Mrs. T. M. Fuller, of Tahlequah. Several new departments were added and a special evangelist appointed to give her time to the 35,000 full blood Indians.

The corresponding secretary, Mrs. Nannie E. Oliver gave a fine review of the year's work. She served in Oklahoma Territory in the same capacity from 1896 to 1898.

Mrs. Mary Kuhl, national evangelist, spent some time in the territory and organized at Checotah, Wilburton, Kiowa, Durant, and South McAlester, the latter place entertaining the convention October 30, 31, 1901. Convention speaker, Mrs. A. C. Zehnor, of Texas. Mrs. G. B. Hester was chairman of the resolutions committee. Twenty-one unions listed in the direc-

tory. Mrs. Laura E. Harsha, treasurer, reports money received during the year \$288.83. Money expended \$246.79.

A petition was sent to President William McKinley asking for the abolition of the canteen in the U. S. Army.

Mrs. Mershon, an evangelist from Indiana, spent several months in the territory inspiring and helping the unions.

In May of 1901 Frances E. Willard and Miss Gordon again visited Indian Territory, and spoke at Muskogee and Atoka. Here they were entertained in the historic home of Rev. and Mrs. Morrow, first missionaries to the Indians. Miss Willard spoke in the church he built with lumber hauled overland from Ft. Smith, Ark. The National W. C. T. U. has shown great interest in the work here and liberal donations have been made to carry on the work. Mrs. N. E. Oliver retired as corresponding secretary, as she was leaving the territory, and Mrs. Morrow retired because of failing eye sight. The following officers were elected:

President, Mrs. Laura E. Harsha, Muskogee.

Cor. Sec., Mrs. Fay Riggins, Atoka.

Rec. Sec., Mrs. E. A. Griswold, Holdenville.

Treasurer, Mrs. Lizzie Covil, Tahlequah.

## 1902

Ardmore, September 17, 18, 19.

The fifteenth annual convention of the Indian Territory Woman's Christian Temperance Union met in this southern city of hospitality, the president, Mrs. Laura E. Harsha, presiding. Mrs. Josephine Carr, president of the Fourth District including the Chickasaw country, and Mrs. Fannie Goff, president of Ardmore union, extended cordial greeting. Mrs. Lulu B. Wheeler, district treasurer, spoke for the Ada union.

The very appropriate motto was "What ought to be done, can be done. We go forward to agitate, educate and organize."

Mrs. A. C. Zehnor was convention speaker, and remained in the district for ten days work. Mrs. Laura E. Harsha was re-elected president, and Mrs. K. L. E. Murrow vice-president; Miss Mattie Gilmore, Muskogee, Cor. Sec.; Rec. Sec., Miss Grace Cruce; Treas., Mrs. Lizzie Coval.

### *I 903*

Welcome night.

Tahlequah, September 2, 3, 4. The sixteenth annual meeting was held again in the historic capitol of the Cherokee Nation, where fourteen years ago the first territorial convention was held, presided over by Mrs. L. Jane Stapler, the first president.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Laura E. Harsha, president. Rev. Pack, pastor of the Baptist church and president of the Baptist Academy, conducted the devotionals. Mr. E. M. Landrum gave the address of welcome for the city. Mr. Parks represented the schools for the "Athens" of the Cherokee Nation. Rev. Thompson, pastor of the Presbyterian church, spoke for the ministers and churches. Mrs. Jennie Sawders in her gracious way welcomed the delegates to Tahlequah. After a social hour ice cream, cake and fruit were served to all.

The regular session opened with devotionals conducted by Mrs. Lucy Belle Davis of Muskogee. The president, Mrs. Harsha, appointed the usual committees. The reports of districts were given by the presidents. "Our Helper," the official organ of the Indian Territory, was then discussed, and a committee was appointed to solicit subscriptions. The paper was published at Muskogee with Miss Martha Gilmore editor.

A motion prevailed to pay the editor a salary of \$15.00 per month.

Convention speaker was Miss Louise Hollister of Evanston, Ill. She had been employed for some time as field worker. Mrs. A. P. McDonald and Mrs. Lila Carlin Moore had completed four months work.

From the president's annual address we quote the following: "My mind goes back to the convention of 1889 held here, then a mere handful of women facing difficulties and opposition, but thank God we have grown and progressed. Looking back over the years of our history, thoughts, sad and tender crowd rapidly through my mind and bring memories of our loved and revered pioneer president, Mrs. Stapler, and her co-worker, Mrs. Tennie M. Fuller, who through the early years held us together, both working for the good of these people."

These two names were placed on the memorial list.

A summer school of methods was established at Sulphur with Mrs. Harsha and Miss Hollister as instructors. The report shows forty delegates, and thirteen local unions represented at this convention.

Miss Mullinex was appointed field missionary. Officers elected were: Pres., Mrs. Laura E. Harsha; vice-president, Mrs. Ida Rockett, Wilburton; Cor. Sec., Miss Martha Gilmore; Rec. Sec., Miss Grace Cruce; Treas., Mrs. Ella S. Witherill, Tahlequah. Delegates to national convention at Cincinnati: Mrs. Lucy Belle Davis and Mrs. Mable R. Sutherland. Both of these became prominent W. C. T. U. leaders in the Indian Territory work.

#### I 904

Tulsa, September 2, 3, 4, 5.

11 A. M. Mrs. K. L. E. Morrow conducted an evangelistic service which was a help and inspiration to the convention.

2 P. M. Regular convention called to order by the president, Mrs. Harsha. The secretary being absent, Mrs. Myrtle Teeple of Bartlesville was appointed to serve. Mrs. Lucy Belle Davis had been appointed corresponding secretary to fill vacancy. Convention speakers were Mrs. Maude L. Greene and Mrs. Nannie Webb Curtis of Texas.

Addresses of welcome were given by Mrs. L. D. Marr and Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey, president of the Tulsa union. Rev. C. H. Coffin and Rev. C. W. Kerr took part on the program. Response was given by Mrs. Susie McKellop of Muskogee. Mrs. Lindsey and Mrs. McKellop later filled important state offices.

Saturday's session was devoted to reports of district presidents and superintendents of departments. Pledges were taken amounting to \$377.04 for territorial work. At night a matrons' contest was held. Mrs. Maude L. Green presented the medal to Mrs. Jessie Cole of Bartlesville. Mrs. Nannie Webb Curtis addressed large audiences at the First Presbyterian church both morning and evening. Mrs. Greene spoke at the South Methodist church. Liberal offerings and many new members were the results of these meetings.

Monday was another business session at which a lengthy discussion of the Muskogee "lot controversy" was had.

Officers elected as follows: Pres., Mrs. Laura E. Harsha; Vice-Pres., Mrs. Mamie D. Ware, Calvin; Cor. Sec., Mrs. Lucy Belle Davis; Rec. Sec., Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey, Tulsa; Treas., Mrs. Ella S. Witheral, Tahlequah. Mrs. Josephine Carr elected as delegate to national convention to be held at Philadelphia. The unbroken circle was formed and the seventeenth convention was adjourned.

**1905**

Ardmore, September 21, 22, 23, 1905.

Annual convention met in the M. E. Church, South, the president, Mrs. Laura E. Harsha, presiding. Devotionals conducted by Mrs. G. B. Hester. Reports of officers and district presidents showed good work done and increased membership.

Dr. Frances Woods of Denver, Colo., addressed a large audience in the church that night on the subject of "Woman Suffrage." Mrs. Kate Biggers attended as a fraternal delegate from the Suffrage Association at Chickasha. A resolution to endorse woman suffrage provoked a heated discussion but finally carried by 11 to 7 in favor of it.

Mrs. Mary Sibbits of Kansas was convention speaker. She gave splendid addresses Sunday in the largest church. Mrs. J. E. Adams of Atoka represented Mrs. Morrow and spoke of the fast failing eye sight of Mrs. Morrow. She afterwards learned to use the typewriter and wrote many letters with sightless eyes.

Mrs. Laura E. Harsha, who for six years had led the W. C. T. U. when the work was heavy and many perplexing problems to meet, now felt that some one else should assume the responsibility, so with the closing of this convention she closed her active work in the Indian Territory as president of the W. C. T. U.

Officers elected were: Pres., Mrs. Mable Sutherland, Chelsea; Vice-Pres., Mrs. Mamie D. Ware; Cor. Sec., Mrs. Lilah J. Ross, Chelsea; Rec. Sec., Mrs. Mary T. Cranston, Wewoka; Treas., Mrs. Eva Noble, Ardmore; L. T. L. Sec., Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey, Tulsa.

All joined hands and Mrs. G. B. Hester voiced an earnest prayer, and the eighteenth W. C. T. U. convention became history.



MRS. LAURA E. HARSHA  
Muskogee  
President Indian Territory



MRS. LILAH D. LINDSEY  
Tulsa  
Last President Indian Territory



*1906*

Afton, Indian Territory, September 27, 28, 29, 30.

The nineteenth annual convention of the Indian Territory W. C. T. U. met in the pleasant little city of Afton in the northeast corner of the territory, the president, Mrs. Mable Sutherland, presiding.

Convention guests were Mrs. Eugenia St. John, who conducted devotionals, and Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, president of the Oklahoma W. C. T. U., who presented cordial greetings from the Oklahoma branch.

After the appointment of committees and other routine business the vice-president was called to the chair and the president read her annual address. This was a fine review of the year's work and recommendations for the coming year. Appreciation was expressed of the recent visit of the National President Lillian M. N. Stevens and Miss Anna Gordon through the Territory in April in the interest of prohibition statehood. At Muskogee they were royally welcomed by the former territorial president, Mrs. Laura E. Harsha, and her co-workers. A reception was held in their honor. Mrs. Stevens addressed a large audience at night on prohibition statehood. From there they went to Tulsa where they were met by Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey, local president, and Mrs. L. D. Marr, with her white ribbon horse and surry, beautifully decorated in white in honor of the guests. They were escorted to the Brady Hotel for entertainment. At 1:30 a number of the local members and friends came in buggies and formed a procession to show them the city and surrounding country, then to the home of Mrs. Samuel C. Davis, where a reception was given them by the local union. Mrs. Mable Sutherland, Indian Territory president, and Mrs. Lila J. Ross, corresponding secretary, were also guests. A conference was held and Mrs. Stevens spoke that night in the First Presbyterian church to a crowded house. They left the next morning for Chicago.

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Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey gave an interesting account of how they secured the W.C.T.U. rest room in Tulsa. Encouraging reports were given by the district presidents. Mrs. Lila J. Ross, the new corresponding secretary, gave a concise report, which shows she is the right woman in the right place. Mrs. St. John then gave a report of her field work and the results, for which she was given the white ribbon salute. Letters from Mrs. Lucy Belle Davis and Mrs. Josephine Carr that sickness prevented their attendance.

Mrs. Hillerman presented an invitation from the Oklahoma W. C. T. U. to consider the union of the two territorial organizations into one state organization after statehood. The question was discussed at length but no definite decision was made. Motion prevailed that the matter be considered again next year. Mrs. Hillerman was given a vote of thanks for her visit and message.

Mrs. Laura E. Harsha reported as editor of "Our Helper," showing a balance of \$2.88 in the treasury. Mrs. Witherill resigned as treasurer. Mrs. Clara Hopson was elected treasurer. No other changes made in officers. Sunday meetings addressed by Mrs. St. John. Next convention to meet at Tulsa.

### I 9 0 7

Tulsa, October 17, 18, 19, 20, 1907.

Welcome night and reception at M. E. Church. Guest of honor, Mrs. Elizabeth P. Hutchison, president Kansas W. C. T. U. In the absence of the president and vice-president, Mrs. Lila J. Ross, corresponding secretary, presided.

Mayor Rhodes gave welcome to the city of Tulsa. Rev. Dunning welcomed for the churches, and Prof. Masters spoke for the schools of Tulsa. Mrs. L. D.

Marr gave greeting for the local union. Special music was an enjoyable feature of the program.

Mrs. Elizabeth P. Hutchison gave an address responding to the cordial welcomes. A social hour and adjournment.

At an executive meeting called by Mrs. Ross, the matter of a presiding officer was discussed. Motion prevailed that Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey be asked to take the chair during the convention.

Devotionals conducted by Mrs. Josephine Dorman of Mounds. Roll call by recording secretary, Mrs. Mary Cranston. Mrs. Lindsey was then introduced to the convention as presiding officer. After a few words of greeting she named the following committees:

Credentials, Mrs. Ross, Mrs. Hopson, and Mrs. Coval.

Courtesy, Mrs. Vandela Fry, Mrs. Tannan.

Publication, Mrs. Lulu B. Wheeler, Mrs. Laura Parks, Mrs. Boyden.

Finance, Mrs. Josephine Dorman, Mrs. Wheeler, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. A. B. Hagler, Mrs. E. P. Hutchison.

Reports of district presidents were given, as follows: First, Mrs. Alice M. Keenan, Tahlequah.

Second, Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey, Tulsa. Report read by Mrs. Dorman, Mounds.

Third, Mrs. Maude Ross, Kiowa.

Fourth, Mrs. Ella A. Sharp, Sulphur.

The corresponding secretary read a letter of regret and disappointment from Mable Sutherland that sickness prevented her attending the convention. A letter of love and sympathy was ordered sent to her.

Mrs. Lindsey gave a very complete report of her work as editor of "The Helper," but stated she could not edit it another year. She was given a vote of thanks for her faithful service.

The president, Mrs. Mable Sutherland, recommend-

ed that county organizations be adopted and the districts discontinued.

Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, president of Oklahoma W. C. T. U., was presented and asked to speak on the subject as the plan was in effect in Oklahoma.

Mrs. Hutchison gave valuable advice along financial lines and assisted the finance committee to solve some perplexing problems.

An invitation was again extended from Oklahoma to the Indian Territory W. C. T. U. to unite in one state organization. The open discussion was led by Mrs. Dorman, followed by Mrs. Sue Uhl Brown, Mrs. Lindsey, Mrs. Lila J. Ross, Mrs. Alice Keenan, Mrs. Clara Hapson, and Mrs. Lulu B. Wheeler. Mrs. Hutchison spoke for the National W. C. T. U. The vote stood 24 for uniting and 27 against. Mrs. Hillerman thanked them for their expression, and said as far as she was concerned she would consider the matter closed.

Following Mrs. Hutchison's report to the national officers, a by-law was cited where a state cannot be divided except for colored work or for geographical reasons, and they appointed Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey and Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman to draft plans for this union and submit them to the national officers for their approval or rejection. In compliance with this a meeting was arranged at Guthrie in January, 1908, where the plans were formulated by the presidents of the two territorial organizations. They were guided by the following resolution adopted by the national convention held at Nashville, Tenn., 1907:

## RESOLUTION

Inasmuch as former Indian Territory is now a part of the state of Oklahoma, and as the National W. C. T. U. can recognize but one state union (except in states having colored organizations, or where geogra-

physical conditions make it necessary), your committee recommends that plans be made by the presidents of Indian Territory and Oklahoma looking toward the union of the two organizations, said plans to be submitted to the general officers of the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union, who shall have the power to ratify, amend or reject the same.

The following plans as drawn were accepted.

### *Plans for Indian Territory*

The Indian Territory W. C. T. U. shall continue their work until the close of this fiscal year. They shall hold their annual convention before the Oklahoma convention. They shall submit reports of State officers and superintendents of departments and close up the year's work. They shall also decide by resolution at this convention to dissolve the organization known as the Indian Territory Woman's Christian Temperance Union, in order to become a part of a new state organization to be known as the Oklahoma State Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

### *Oklahoma Plans*

At the close of the Oklahoma territorial convention they shall decide by resolution to dissolve the organization of Oklahoma Territory W. C. T. U., in order to become a part of the new Oklahoma State W. C. T. U., said organization to be effected at the same time and place.

The representation from each Territorial Union shall be such as is provided for by the Oklahoma Territorial Constitution.

The two organizations shall come together without any indebtedness on either side; and inasmuch as 15 cents of the dues on the Oklahoma side is used for the

purpose of paying for the printing of the minutes thereby entitling each member to a copy of the same, therefore, Indian Territory shall also deposit with the new state treasurer a like amount per member for the same purpose; and all other moneys remaining in either territorial treasury shall be turned into the new state treasury.

The minutes or Year-Book shall contain the proceedings and record of both the Oklahoma and Indian Territory W. C. T. U.'s, the expense of same to be met by the general treasury.

A committee of three shall be appointed to act with the state treasurers to adjust the financial questions.

Abbie B. Hillerman.  
Lilah D. Lindsey.

Officers elected were :

Pres., Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey, Tulsa.

Vice-Pres., Mrs. Josephine Dorman, Mounds.

Cor. Sec., Mrs. Lila J. Ross, Chelsea.

Rec. Sec., Mrs. Mary T. Cranston, Wewoka.

Treas., Mrs. Clara Hopson, Blue Jacket.

Fifty-four delegates present. Adjourned to meet in Muskogee next year.

### 1908

Muskogee, Oklahoma, September 11, 12, 13, 14.

Friday, 3 P. M. The twenty-first convention of Indian Territory was called to order by the president, Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey. Just twenty years ago a few pioneer women met here for the purpose of organizing a Woman's Christian Temperance Union. That first convention was honored by the presence of Miss Frances Willard and Miss Anna Gordon. It seems very fitting that this last one should also be held in Muskogee.

After the usual opening exercises the president appointed the convention committees. The secretary being absent, the chair appointed Mrs. Susie McKellop to serve in her place. Mrs. G. B. Hester conducted a very impressive consecration service. Minutes of executive meeting held at Wewoka in January were read and after discussion adopted. Prayer by Mrs. Laura Parks, Chelsea. Announcements and adjournment.

8 P. M. Welcome night and reception proved a very happy occasion. Cordial greetings and responses were given. The program was carried out as printed.

Saturday, Sept. 12, 1908. Convention called to order by the president, Lilah D. Lindsey. Devotionals by Mrs. Anna B. Hagler of Pryor Creek. Minutes of yesterday read and approved. Letters of greeting were read from Mrs. Laura E. Harsha and Mrs. Mable Sutherland, both ex-territorial presidents.

The president's annual address was a splendid review of the year's work and was ordered printed in the minutes. The corresponding secretary spoke of the three months field work of Mrs. L. E. Bailey, national organizer, also the work of Mrs. Lindsey and the district presidents. The treasurer's report showed the national had sent \$200.00 to be used in the Indian Territory work. Money received from all sources \$1074.03. Total disbursements, \$1074.03.

A loss in membership and number of local unions was reported. Reports of district presidents and department superintendents were given, showing much interest in the work.

We quote the following from the report of the resolutions committee:

"Be it resolved by the Indian Territory W. C. T. U. that we dissolve our organization, disbanding and agreeing to become one in a union with Oklahoma.

"Be it further resolved, that all who were entitled to become members of this convention whether by local,

district or state office, shall remain so entitled, and serve in the union organization, which is to be perfected at Oklahoma City, September 18, 1908."

Mrs. Susie McKellop,  
Mrs. Alice Keenan,  
Mrs. Josephine Dorman,  
Mrs. Lucy Belle Davis,  
Mrs. Alice Craig, Committee.

A note of sadness pervaded this convention as the white ribbon comrades realized this was their last meeting as Old Indian Territory. With tearful eyes and sad hearts the unbroken circle was formed and all sang "God Be With You Till We Meet Again." The president, Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey, declared the twenty-first convention of the Indian Territory adjourned, and the organization dissolved.

#### INDIAN TERRITORY ANNUAL MEETINGS

1888. Muskogee, July, Mrs. L. Jane Stapler, president, Tahlequah.
1889. Tahlequah, June 4; Mrs. L. Jane Stapler, president, Tahlequah.
1890. Muskogee, May 21, 22; Mrs. L. Jane Stapler, president, Tahlequah.
1891. Atoka, May 20, 21; Mrs. L. Jane Stapler, president, Tahlequah.
1892. Tahlequah, May 18, 19, 20; Mrs. L. Jane Stapler, president, Tahlequah.
1893. Vinita, May 17, 18; Mrs. L. Jane Stapler, president, Tahlequah.
1894. Wagoner, May 17, 18, 19; Mrs. L. Jane Stapler, president, Tahlequah.

1895. Claremore, May 15, 16, 17; Mrs. L. Jane Stapler, president, Tahlequah.
1896. Muskogee, May 6, 7, 8; Mrs. L. Jane Sapler, president, Tahlequah.
1897. Vinita, April 27, 28; Mrs. L. Jane Stapler, president, Tahlequah.
1898. Atoka, May 11, 12; Mrs. L. Jane Stapler, president, Tahlequah.
1899. Pryor Creek, January 12, 13; Mrs. K. L. E. Murrow, president, Atoka.
1899. Poteau, September 26, 27, 28; Mrs. Eva E. Ratcliff, Vinita, president.
1900. Muskogee, October 2, 3, 4; Mrs. Laura E. Harsha, Muskogee, president.
1901. South McAlester, October 30, 31; Mrs. Laura E. Harsha, president.
1902. Ardmore, September 17, 18, 19; Mrs. Laura E. Harsha, president.
1903. Tahlequah, September 2, 3, 4, 5; Mrs. Laura E. Harsha, president.
1904. Tulsa, September 2, 3, 4, 5; Mrs. Laura E. Harsha, president.
1905. Ardmore, September 21, 22, 23; Mrs. Mable Sutherland, Chelsea, president.
1906. Afton, September 27, 28, 29, 30; Mrs. Mable Sutherland, Chelsea, president.
1907. Tulsa, October 17, 18, 19, 20; Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey, Tulsa, president.
1908. Muskogee, September 11, 12, 13, 14; Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey, Tulsa, president.

## OPENING *of* OKLAHOMA TERRITORY

Under the proclamation of President Harrison, Oklahoma Territory was opened to homestead settlement April 22, 1889.

At high noon on that day when the signal was given by the firing of guns, the thousands who had been camping on the border, rushed in to secure a quarter section, drive a stake and call it home.

People from the north, south, east, and west came and pitched their tents in the land of the "Fair God."

Guthrie was designated as the capitol and seat of government.

Original Oklahoma Territory embraced six counties: Logan, Canadian, Cleveland, Kingfisher, Oklahoma, and Payne, covering an area of two million acres. In 1893 the "Strip," as it was generally called, was added with an area of 3,687,360 acres. Other sections have been added from time to time.

With the incoming tide of population a train on the Santa Fe railroad from Wichita to Guthrie arrived at noon on the opening day. Women were among the early arrivals, one a white ribboner from Winfield, Kansas.

Later in the day when a wagon was drawn up to serve as a capitol and the state government was being

organized without a word of prayer, this white ribboner asked "Would you organize this new government without a word of prayer?" They replied: "There's no preacher here. Who will pray?" This faithful woman said "I will pray," and Mrs. Mathilda Greer prayed earnestly that the new state to be might some day be a prohibition state.

That first prayer offered publicly in Oklahoma has echoed and re-echoed down the years, and been caught up by thousands of women who wear the badge of ribbon white.

It was not only a call to service but a prophecy of the time to come when prohibition should be written in the organic law of the state.

On this new townsite and capitol site hastily constructed buildings soon appeared; covered wagons were used as homes. The thrifty merchant was quick to seize the opportunity and open a store with a dry goods box for a counter. The shingle of the doctor and the lawyer were soon swung out.

"The Daily State Capitol" was run off on sugar brown paper by the enterprising editor, Frank H. Greer. So the wind swept plain of the morning was a well populated town at night.

Religious services were soon being held in tents. At one of these meetings a woman was present who was one of these meetings a woman was present who was destined to play an important part in the history of this state. She saw across the tent another woman wearing a white ribbon badge. Mrs. Emma Miller was not long in making her way to the woman and two comrades of a common cause clasped hands. They arranged for a meeting that very afternoon in what is now west Guthrie. The particular covered wagon was described as the one with a piece of red carpet for the door. Here the two women met, knelt in prayer, and here the first plans were made to organize a union as soon as a suf-

ficient number of members could be secured. The unsettled condition made organized work very difficult as people moved from place to place.

Through the instrumentality of Mrs. Emma Miller the first local union in Oklahoma was organized in Guthrie April 9, 1890. Mrs. W. L. Rhodes was elected president. Among the charter members were Mrs. Emma Miller, Mrs. E. H. Furrow, Mrs. P. M. L. Ray, Miss Alma Carson, Sarah E. Gaffney, Mrs. Annie Peobles, Mrs. Flora Leach, Mrs. Mary Lumpkins. Others who joined during the week were Mrs. Nellie Swan, Mrs. N. M. Carter. Many of these have been prominent in the work.

Soon after this Mrs. Fannie Rastall, president of Kansas W. C. T. U., organized unions at Oklahoma City, El Reno, Edmond, Kingfisher, and Norman. A call was issued, and delegates from these local unions were sent to Oklahoma City April 29, 1890, for the purpose of organizing a territorial union.

The meeting was held in the M. E. Church, and was called to order by Mrs. A. G. Murry, president of the Oklahoma City union. Prayer by Rev. Trover. Mrs. W. L. Rhodes read the 12th chapter of Romans and offered prayer. Song, "Come We that Love the Lord."

Mrs. Rastall took charge of the meeting and proceeded with the organization. Delegates were enrolled as follows: Oklahoma City 9, Guthrie 8, Kingfisher 5, Edmond 3, Norman 2; total 27. Mrs. Emma Miller moved that a territorial union be organized. Miss Alma Carson, Guthrie, was temporary secretary. After the necessary business the following officers were elected: President, Mrs. W. L. Rhodes, Guthrie; Vice-Pres., Mrs. A. G. Murry; Cor. Sec., Mrs. Holzapful, Oklahoma City; Rec. Sec., Miss Alma Carson, Guthrie; Treas., Mrs. Sprigg, Kingfisher; Committee on Publicity, Mrs. Emma Miller, Mrs. Nelle C. Woodson, and Mrs. Mitchel, Norman.



MRS. EMMA MILLER  
Guthrie

Pioneer and Mother of  
Oklahoma W. C. T. U.



MRS. DOROTHY J. CLEVELAND  
President Oklahoma Territory  
W. C. T. U.



MRS. SUE UHL BROWN  
Former President of  
Oklahoma Territory



MRS. NELLIE SHEPLOR RUPERT  
Former President of  
Oklahoma Territory



After special instruction in the work the meeting adjourned. At the church door carriages were waiting to take the delegates a ride over the city. The places of interest visited were the ice plant, Canal Cap'n Couch's claim and grave, and the three blocks of residence property. Doubtless it taxed the hospitality of this embryo city to care for these delegates. It is also a matter of record that the delegates from Guthrie were sorely perplexed to find the means to meet this extra expense to Oklahoma City, but the president was more fortunate financially and offered to advance the money to buy the tickets for the eight delegates. Soon pay day came but the pioneer women were resourceful and a Cold Water social was held. The fact that the glasses were borrowed and no seats could be provided did not prevent the enthusiastic members from disposing of a large supply at ten cents a glass. Toasts were drank to the future cold water state of Oklahoma.

In order to fall in line with the National W. C. T. U. a convention was called for October of that same year to be held at Guthrie. No records of the six months intervening are available.

We have a copy of the artistic program used at Guthrie October 8, 9, 1890. Mrs. W. L. Rhodes, territorial president, presided. Mrs. Alice Williams of Missouri was convention speaker. The address of welcome was given by Miss Cora Lumpkins. Response by Mrs. Holzapful, Oklahoma City. A paper on Woman's Suffrage was read by Mrs. Powell and one on Social Purity by Mrs. Delplaine. Mrs. A. G. Murray, Oklahoma City, was elected second territorial president. Entertainment for this convention was secured with difficulty, few people had room to keep visitors. Real estate men were prevailed upon to loan their buggies to carry the delegates around. Possibly at that early date they saw the advantage of advertising. Messenger boys were also secured to carry suit cases. It might truth-

fully be said that Guthrie has ever been prompt to see the advantage of making a good appearance.

The convention was held in the M. E. Church. A recess was taken in the afternoon to visit the legislature, then in session. Permission had been given Mrs. Alice Williams to address the senate. She spoke in favor of the anti-gambling bill then before the senate. The ladies then went to the house, but no privileges to speak, so they returned to the senate unobserved, but just in time to see the mock courtesy of the presiding officer, as he jestingly presented to the imaginary lady who had just spoken a bouquet of vegetables which he had hastily procured at a near by grocery store. The quick witted Mrs. Williams saw the situation and stepped forward to receive the bouquet, to the surprise and chagrin of the president of the first Oklahoma legislature in October, 1890.

### 1891

Oklahoma City was again hostess to the convention in 1891, Oct. 7, 8, 9. No official records were found. Mrs. J. E. Roberts of El Reno was elected president. Cor. Sec., Mrs. L. C. Holzapfel, Oklahoma City; Rec. Sec., Miss Alma Carson, Guthrie; Treas., Miss Cora Lumpkins, Guthrie.

### 1892

This convention was held at El Reno October 12, 13, 14, 1892, in the Presbyterian Church. Through the courtesy of Nellie Sheplor we have the program with the very appropriate "Motto: Faith and Courage."

Convention was called to order by the president, Mrs. J. E. Roberts. Prayer, Rev. Bryant. Addresses of welcome by Acting Mayor Kerfoot, Rev. Smith for the churches, and Mrs. O. P. Light for the W. C. T.

U. Response by Mrs. C. P. Walker, Oklahoma City. Roll call, and appointment of committees. The president's annual address gave a brief review of the work and some of the difficulties overcome.

Mrs. Nellie Sheplor gave the address of the evening. Papers were read by Mrs. Sue Uhl Brown, Mrs. Hattie J. McKnight, Mrs. Copeland, Mrs. Bogges. Memorial service for Mrs. Bradley conducted by Mrs. Emma Miller. A paper on women suffrage elicited favorable comment.

Officers elected as follows: Pres., Mrs. Nellie Sheplor, Oklahoma City; Cor. Sec., Mrs. L. C. Holzapful, Oklahoma City; Rec. Sec., Miss Alma Carson, Guthrie; Treas., Miss Cora Lumpkins, Guthrie.

### 1893

Nov. 10, 11, 12. For the third time within three years the hospitality of Oklahoma City was extended to the Territorial W. C. T. U. Convention called to order by the president, Mrs. Nellie Sheplor. In the absence of the secretary, Miss Nellie Shidler (now Mrs. Nellie Gaymon) was appointed secretary pro tem. Mrs. Copeland, president of the north district, conducted a praise service. Rev. Nathan of the M. E. Church and Rev. Francis of the Congregational Church were introduced and gave greetings. Mrs. Copeland reported that opening of the "Strip" had greatly interfered with organizations as in some cases the officers had removed and in others whole unions had migrated to some other place. She was unable to hold the district convention for this reason. Mrs. O. P. Light gave a more encouraging report for the south district. Fifty copies of the state minutes were printed for the first time. They contain the splendid annual address of the president. It is full of hope and encouragement. She calls attention to the fact that since the passage of the Wrightsman Anti-

Gambling Bill (the one supported by the W. C. T. U.) "open gambling has disappeared," and conditions are changed. (Senator C. W. Wrightsman now of Tulsa was author of the bill.)

Mrs. Emma Miller conducted memorial service for Miss Jennie Cassedy, originator of the Flower Mission work. Mrs. Nellie Swan, secretary of the L. T. L. work, reported. Mrs. Angie Wilson and Mrs. Minnie B. Storm spoke of department work. The names of Mrs. Alma Chapman, Mrs. Mary Gamble, Mrs. V. E. Young, Mrs. Lowery, and Mrs. Lafferty appear on the program. Mrs. Minnie B. Storm and Miss Nellie Shidler were appointed to get the minutes printed.

Officers elected were: Pres., Mrs. Matilda Switzer, Kingfisher; Vice-Pres., Mrs. Nellie Sheplor, Oklahoma City; Cor. Sec., Mrs. Minnie B. Storm, Oklahoma City; Rec. Sec., Mrs. Copeland, Guthrie; Treas., Mrs. O. P. Light, El Reno.

### 1894

In 1894 the Territorial convention met at Guthrie October 17, 18. Mrs. Matilda Switzer was re-elected president and Mrs. Minnie B. Storm corresponding secretary. Because of the unsettled condition of the country no records can be found.

### 1895

The sixth Territorial convention met in Perry October 14, 15, 16. The Perry union was organized in June of this year. Mrs. Nell C. Woodson was now living in Perry and through her efforts two medal contests were held, a Y. P. B. and an L. T. L. organized. \$37.33 was expended in the work this year.

Officers elected were: Pres., Mrs. Amelia Mentz, Perry; Vice-President, Mrs. S. H. Mitchel, Enid; Sec-

retary, Mrs. N. E. Oliver, Perry; Treas., Mrs. C. C. Cail, Oklahoma City.

### 1896

The seventh convention met in El Reno November 10, 11, 12, 1896, the president, Mrs. Amelia Mentz, presiding. Roll call showed seventeen delegates present. The secretary, Mrs. N. E. Oliver, reported twenty local unions organized. Mrs. Oliver was elected delegate to the National convention at St. Louis. Mrs. Rachel E. Woodrow wrote the first state song entitled "Oklahoma." Money received during the year \$39.50. Money expended, \$27.36. Officers elected: Pres., Mrs. Sue Uhl Brown, Oklahoma City; Vice-Pres., Mrs. D. M. C. Smith, Perry; Cor. Sec., Mrs. N. E. Oliver, Perry; Treas., Mrs. M. M. Newby, Yukon.

### 1897

The annual convention of the W. C. T. U. met in Guthrie October 19, 20, 21. We have a neat booklet containing the directory, constitution and by-laws. No minutes were printed this year.

Mrs. Sue Uhl Brown presided. On recommendation of the president a legislative committee was appointed, viz: Mrs. Kate Anderson, Mrs. Emma Miller, Mrs. P. M. L. Ray, all of Guthrie. The Guthrie union has ever been alert to secure good legislation.

We find the names of Mrs. Dorothy J. Cleveland, Catherine Ferguson and Mrs. L. Ella Hartley listed as department superintendents. Each of these later served as leaders.

So great was the need for money that Mrs. Nellie Sheplor was appointed financial agent to go out and secure funds for the W. C. T. U.

Officers elected: Pres., Mrs. Susie B. Jackson, El

Reno; Vice-Pres., Mrs. Amelia Mentz, Perry; Cor. Sec., Mrs. N. E. Oliver, El Reno; Rec. Sec., Mrs. Rachel E. Woodrow, Pond Creek; Treas., Mrs. M. M. Newby, Yukon.

### 1898

The 1898 convention met in Okarche, Canadian county, September 28, 29, 30. Convention was called to order in the Congregational Church by Mrs. Amelia Mentz, vice-president, in the absence of the president. Convention speaker and guest was Mrs. Helen D. Hartford of Oregon. She gave one month's field work in Oklahoma.

Impressive memorial services were held for the beloved national president, Miss Frances E. Willard, who had just passed to the Life Immortal.

A motion prevailed that a petition be presented to the coming state legislature, asking the passage of a law prohibiting the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors in Oklahoma, also to prevent the sale of cigarettes to minors. Mrs. Nellie Deselms was chairman of the resolution committee. She was the first Y. P. B. secretary in Oklahoma. Seventeen delegates present. Messages of regret were sent to Mrs. Emma Miller, Mrs. Sue Uhl Brown and Mrs. L. Ella Hartley for their absence.

Officers elected: Pres., Mrs. Catherine E. Ferguson, Norman; Vice-Pres., Mrs. Amelia Mentz, Perry; Cor. Sec., Mrs. N. E. Oliver, El Reno; Rec. Sec., Mrs. Rachel E. Woodrow, Pond Creek; Treas., Mrs. C. L. Kelsey, Okarche.

The minutes of this convention were printed in newspaper form.

1899

Kingfisher, September 12, 13, 14, 1899, M. E. Church. The tenth convention was the first to be honored by the presence of a national officer. Mrs. Clara C. Hoffman, national recording secretary, was guest of honor and convention speaker. President Catherine E. Ferguson called the convention to order. Mrs. Hoffman gave much help and inspiration to the sessions.

On welcome night, Mrs. Satterlee gave cordial welcome to guests and delegates. The choir sang a welcome to Mrs. Hoffman which had been written by one of the members.

The first day was devoted to reports of district officers and department work. The "famous resolution" adopted at this time was one against boards of education accepting gifts of money from brewers and saloon keepers. This passed after a spirited debate. Rev. H. E. Swan, president of the Anti-Saloon League (just organized), presented greetings.

Report shows thirty-four delegates present, and thirty-three local unions. Active members 302, honorary 135. Money received \$269.30; expended \$237.80.

This being the tenth anniversary of the organization of the Territorial W. C. T. U., a special program was given with Mrs. Emma Miller presiding. Attractive programs were printed in red and white with Miss Willard's picture in the upper corner, also the picture of Mrs. Clara C. Hoffman. Greetings were read from Mrs. Eliza J. Thompson of Hillsborough, Ohio; also the national W. C. T. U. officers. Mrs. Fannie Rastall, president of the Kansas union and who organized Oklahoma, sent a special message of cheer and encouragement. Miss Alma Carson, the first secretary, gave a pen picture of the first convention. Mrs. N. M. Carter read a paper entitled "Ebb and Flow." Mrs. W. M. Jenkins offered the closing prayer.

Officers: Pres., Mrs. Catherine Ferguson, Norman; Cor. Sec., Dorothy J. Cleveland, Anadarko; Rec. Sec., Rachel E. Woodrow, Pond Creek; Treas., Mrs. Mae French, Perkins.

### 1900

This was called the Flower Convention, for little Louise Cohagan, the pastor's daughter, met each delegate at the church door and gave them flowers and a program, the gift of the Guthrie union. The M. E. Church was the convention home. Rev. Cohagan and Rev. Miles gave cordial welcome. The president, Mrs. Ferguson, introduced Governor C. M. Barnes, who welcomed the delegates on behalf of the state, and Prof. Campbell spoke for the schools. Dorothy J. Cleveland responded for the state.

Reports of district presidents and superintendents were encouraging.

This convention marked a number of changes in state government. Motion prevailed that districts be discontinued and county organization be instituted instead. Motion carried that district presidents be made state organizers and retain their place on the executive committee. So well did they do their work that ten counties were organized in 1901 before the next convention, viz. Pottowatomie, Oklahoma, Payne, Cleveland, Canadian, Lincoln and Noble. Logan county was organized in 1894, and Woods and Kay in 1899.

Life memberships were created and the following names placed on the list: Mrs. Catherine E. Ferguson, Mrs. Emma Miller, Mrs. Rachel E. Woodrow, Mrs. Sue Uhl Brown, Mrs. Hattie C. Palmer, Mrs. George Cohagan.

The president recommended county institutes for instruction of workers. Also interesting programs in local unions to secure good attendance.

This was a very memorable convention for the writer of this history as it was her first one in Oklahoma, but as she had served as county president in Kansas, the work was not entirely new. She went to learn but was elected to serve.

Officers: Pres., Mrs. Dorothy J. Cleveland, Anadarko; Vice-Pres., Mrs. Catherine E. Ferguson; Cor. Sec., Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, Stillwater; Rec. Sec., Mrs. Rachel E. Woodrow, Pond Creek; Treas., Mrs. Mae French, Perkins.

Mrs. Callie Howe of Missouri gave a brilliant address the last night of the convention. Delegates present, fifty-four.

### NORMAN, APRIL 3, 1901.

The mid-year executive committee meeting was held at Norman, Mrs. Dorothy J. Cleveland, presiding.

A dispensary system had been proposed for Oklahoma. The Anti-Saloon League invited Mrs. Cleveland to attend a meeting of temperance workers to be held at Guthrie in June of this year. The executive committee voted against this proposed plan. Later at the Guthrie meeting after lengthy debate Mrs. Cleveland voted against it, declaring "The Oklahoma Woman's Christian Temperance Union could make no compromise; their aim was state and national prohibition."

### I 9 O I

Oklahoma City was again hostess to the convention October 19, 20, 21, at the M. E. Church. The delegates were met at the church door by Mrs. Angie Wilson's smiling face. Convention presided over by Mrs. Dorothy J. Cleveland. On welcome night Mrs. Minnie B. Storm spoke tender words of welcome and bade the delegates feel at home with them. Mrs. Silwyn Douglas, president of the State Federation of Women's

Clubs, extended cordial greeting and congratulated the Woman's Christian Temperance Union upon being the pioneer organization of women in Oklahoma Territory. A paper on "How to secure prohibition for Oklahoma" was read by the state corresponding secretary, Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman.

The state president emphasized the need of a paper for the coming campaign for prohibition statehood. Mr. S. W. Warden, editor of the Reform Herald, offered the W. C. T. U. space in his paper. This was accepted with thanks and Mrs. Alice Blackburn was appointed editor for the W. C. T. U. material.

Mrs. Hillerman, Mrs. Chapmen and L. Ella Hartley were appointed to revise the state constitution. Mrs. Irene B. Hester, president of Woods county, read the report of the resolutions committee. This was her last convention; she was called to higher service. Union Signal reporter, Mrs. Sue Uhl Brown, presented the paper and took subscriptions. Miss Alma Carson, Mrs. Abbie Hillerman, and Mrs. Ida May Lindsey were made life members. Mrs. Minnie Johnston of Kansas had just completed seven weeks work in Oklahoma and was convention speaker. She brought the cheering news that she had just organized Waketa with enough new members to make 500 gain in the state. Enthusiasm ran high and all stood and sang the Doxology.

Miss Belle Kearney, a national organizer, addressed the two Sunday services. The legislative committee reported the passage of the Anti-Cigarette bill.

A motion prevailed that the territorial officers be compensated. After a lively discussion the following salaries were allowed: President \$40.00, Cor. Sec. \$25.00, Rec. Sec. \$15.00, Treas. \$20.00.

Much field work had been done by Miss Minnie Johnson, Mrs. Callie Howe, Mrs. Lila Carlin Moore. The president responded to many calls. A gain of 500 members gave Oklahoma a place on the jubilee pro-

gram at the national convention held at Fort Worth, Texas. Officers and delegates were Mrs. Dorothy J. Cleveland, Mrs. W. M. Jenkins, Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, Mrs. Rachel E. Woodrow, Mrs. Emma Miller, Mrs. Sue Uhl Brown, Mrs. N. M. Carter, Mrs. Angie Wilson, Mrs. Nellie Swan, L. T. L. Sec., and Mrs. Lucy A. M. Boyce, Y. P. B. Sec. During the demonstration at Fort Worth the Oklahoma delegation gave Mrs. Cleveland a chrysanthemum shower, very much to her surprise. The national president, Lillian M. N. Stevens, presented a beautiful silk flag to Oklahoma for the 500 gain in membership.

No change was made in state officers this year. Seventy delegates present at this convention in Oklahoma City. Total receipts \$567.05. Total expenditures \$372.17.

## 1902

Next came the convention at Perry, September 18, 19, 20, 21, 1902, the president, Mrs. Dorothy J. Cleveland, presiding. Devotionals were led by Mrs. Jane K. Mars, a Crusader. Cordial greetings were extended by Mrs. Josephine Klostermyer, county president. Mrs. Minnie Johnston Grinstead was again the convention speaker.

Not many changes mark this convention. The West Guthrie union was awarded the banner for the greatest gain in membership, 64. The county banner was given to Mrs. Hattie J. McKnight, county president of Comanche county. The president, Dorothy J. Cleveland, was presented a framed certificate of life membership in the national Woman's Christian Temperance Union which she accepted with gracious words of appreciation. Mrs. Grinstead tied the white ribbon on the two small children of Mrs. Ella J. Barnes and named the two months old baby Dorothy Frances.

No change was made in the general officers except the treasurer. A prize was discovered in the person of Mrs. Katie McWethy of Guthrie. So well did she fill the office of state treasurer that she was elected for twelve consecutive years with practically every vote in the convention, and retired at her own request because of defective hearing.

Delegates present 57. Money received during the year \$366.82. Money expended \$256.75.

### 1903

Alva, September 24, 25, 26, 27, 1903. This convention was called to order by the vice-president, Mrs. L. Ella Hartley. The death of the dearly beloved president, Dorothy J. Cleveland, August 8th, just a few weeks before, made this the saddest meeting in our history, it was so unexpected. An impressive memorial service was held and many beautiful tributes were paid to her life and work.

Miss Permilia Mahan, a national lecturer and reader, was convention speaker, and gave needed help and encouragement. Prof. Henry Fellows of the state normal school invited the delegates to attend chapel the next morning. Mrs. Hartley addressed the students.

Hearts were sad and not much planning was done. They say "every cloud has a silver lining" and in this case it was the acquisition of a Missouri woman, Mrs. Cora D. Hammett, who was elected state corresponding secretary. The splendid service rendered by her in this capacity proved the wisdom of the choice. The other officers elected were Pres., Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman; Vice-Pres., Mrs. L. Ella Hartley; Cor. Sec., Mrs. Cora D. Hammett; Rec. Sec., Mrs. Rachel E. Woodrow; Treas., Mrs. Katie McWethy.

Miss Mahan was employed for a month's work in western Oklahoma. She was accompanied by the new

president, who felt the need of this experience with her in field work. The counties of Greer and Roger Mills were often swept by terrific sand storms in the early days, and they came away with sand as well as experience. They found some splendid workers, Miss Alice V. Rickel, president Greer county, who drove them 35 mils with horse and buggy to hold a county meeting; Mrs. Alice Blackburn, president Roger Mills county, arranged dates in her county. Cheyenne could only be reached by stage, but thither they went in the teeth of a sand storm so violent at times the horses stopped. Miss Kate Wallace of Cheyenne was the second Y. P. B. secretary.

### I 904

The El Reno convention September 14, 15, 16, was a "Harvest Home" gathering. The ranks had closed up and the work moved steadily forward. The president, Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman presided.

Song, "My Faith Looks up to Thee." Prayer, Rev. Witherby, pastor M. E. Church. Roll call showed sixteen counties represented by delegates. Old Woods county had the largest number of local unions listed at 30, Comanche next with 14 unions, and Caddo with 12.

The state officers were all entertained at the hospitable home of Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Miller, better known as M. Allice Miller. She voiced the cordial welcome to the delegates on opening night. She presented to the state W. C. T. U. a framed picture of the late president, Dorothy J. Cleveland, on behalf of Mr. Cleveland. In doing so she spoke in tender words of the last hours she spent with Mrs. Cleveland at the hospital where she watched her till the gentle spirit took its flight. Memorial hour was conducted by Mrs. Emma Miller; many beautiful tributes were paid to our dear departed president.

Mrs. L. Ella Hartley gave a lecture the second night on the "Customs and Costumes of Oriental People" as she saw them on her recent trip to the World's Sunday School convention held at Jerusalem.

Much field work had been done; the president gave twelve weeks work, Miss Mahan four weeks, Mrs. Mary Sibbits four weeks, beside state and county workers, and as a result 40 new and reorganized unions were reported which made another gain of 500 members. Oklahoma was getting ready for statehood. Nineteen of the twenty-six counties were organized.

From the president's annual address we quote: "We as an organization favor prohibition statehood; and are pledged to do all in our power to secure the same. We believe all Christian people should unite their efforts regardless of party for the election of men to the statehood convention who are pledged to support prohibition for the new state, whether we are granted single or double statehood."

Mrs. Katie McWethy and Mrs. Sarah J. Cannon were made life members.

Miss Laura Gregg, a suffrage advocate, gave an address in the afternoon. Mrs. Cora D. Hammett presented copies of "The Oklahoma Messenger" to the convention, urging the adoption of this paper as official organ of the Oklahoma Woman's Christian Temperance Union. After lengthy discussion a motion prevailed to refer the matter to the general officers for consideration. A vote of thanks was given the Oklahoma City union for the copies of "The Messenger." A diamond medal contest was held the last night of the convention under the direction of Mrs. Mary E. Rankin, state superintendent of contest work. Mrs. Blanch Wise Diggs won the beautiful medal.

Mrs. M. Alice Miller was elected vice-president. No other change in offices. Later, "The Oklahoma Messenger" was adopted as the state paper with Mrs. Cora



MRS. CORA D. HAMMETT  
Corresponding Secretary and  
First President of Greater  
Oklahoma



MRS. ALMIRA STRAUGHEN  
Chandler  
Recording Secretary and Editor  
Messenger.



MRS. KATIE MCWETHY  
Guthrie  
State Treasurer, Oklahoma,  
Twelve Years.



D. Hammett as editor, and authorized to secure subscriptions at 25 cents each, paper to be issued monthly.

### 1905

Shawnee entertained the comrades in 1905, September 13, 14, 15, in M. E. Church, the president, Mrs. Hillerman, presiding. Special features of this meeting was the change in dues from 60 to 75 cents, this to include a copy of the state minutes. Mrs. Katie Patterson gave notice that next year she would move a change of \$1.00 dues, this to include a copy of state paper. Guests of the convention were Mr. Volney B. Cushing of Maine, Rev. J. J. Thompson, superintendent of Anti-Saloon League, Rev. J. E. Burt, pastor of the church, and Mr. P. P. Hillerman, husband of the president. All gave greetings. Report of the state paper by the editor, Mrs. Hammett, was enthusiastically received. This paper was launched Oct. 4, 1904, as a three column, four page paper, but after two months this size was found inadequate, so in December it was enlarged to a four column paper. It began with a subscription list of 73 and at the close of the first year had increased to 750 regular subscribers. The editor was allowed \$15.00 per month salary. Under the able management of the editor this paper meant much in the campaign for prohibition.

In the S. T. I. department under Miss Alma Carson, who worked through schools and colleges as well as teachers associations, and Mrs. Mary E. Rankin, through the medal contest department, were great factors in creating prohibition sentiment.

Governor and Mrs. T. B. Ferguson were the honored guests the last day of the convention and he gave a masterly address the last night on "Citizenship in the New State." The following were elected delegates to the National Convention in Los Angeles, Calif.: Abbie B. Hillerman, Cora D. Hammett, Katie McWethy,

Emma Miller, Mrs. P. M. L. Ray, Ella Matchett, Rose D. Rodman, Mrs. Dr. Meridith, and Miss Ollie Hillerman joined the party to the coast. All traveled together to the wonderful land of fruit and flowers. The great convention with such beautiful surroundings was an inspiration to every delegate. The many pleasure trips to the coast gave the inland people their first view of the ocean. This journey was one long to be remembered. Up to this time officers and delegates paid their entire expense to national conventions.

Through the efforts of Mrs. Hammett, the national recording secretary Mrs. Clara C. Hoffman was secured to speak at the Oklahoma City Chautauqua on W. C. T. U. day. She gave a powerful address on "The Value of Prohibition to a New State." Salaries of officers were now increased to president \$100.00; corresponding secretary \$60.00; recording secretary \$35.00; treasurer \$60.00. Total disbursements this year were \$1,584.97.

#### MID-YEAR EXECUTIVE MEETING PERRY, OKLA., MARCH 29, 1906.

This was a memorable meeting, for it marked the formal opening of the campaign for prohibition statehood by the W. C. T. U. The national president, Mrs. Lillian M. N. Stevens, and vice-president, Miss Anna A. Gordon, were present for a conference with the Oklahoma officers as to plans and methods of carrying on the campaign. The national and state officers were guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hiram L. Boyes, where the first conference was held.

Sessions of the executive committee were held in the Presbyterian Church, the president, Mrs. Hillerman, presiding. Other officers present were: Vice-Pres. Mrs. M. Alice Miller, Cor. Sec. Mrs. Cora D. Hammett, Treas. Mrs. Katie McWethy, who was appointed to act



HOME OF MR. AND MRS. HIRAM L. BOYES, PERRY

Where first Prohibition Campaign Plans  
were made by National and State Officers



as recording secretary in the absence of Mrs. Rachel E. Woodrow. Plans of the campaign were approved by the executive committee.

Following this meeting the national officers, accompanied by the state officers and Mrs. Lucy Boyes, went to Guthrie where a reception had been arranged at the Carnegie library in their honor. This was a very brilliant social affair under the management of the East Guthrie union. Mrs. Stevens spoke in response to the greetings from the various women's organizations. The decorations were beautiful and elaborate.

From here they attended the Payne County Institute at Stillwater. The sessions were held in the Christian Church, and Rev. Vertes Williams gave a cordial welcome to the distinguished visitors. The L. T. L. gave a demonstration for Miss Gordon and she presented a silk flag to them. Mrs. Stevens spoke at night. The county president, Mrs. Mary E. Rankin, and local presidents, Mrs. Lura Holmes and Mrs. A. A. Morgan, contributed much to the success of this institute.

Other places visited were Oklahoma City, El Reno, and Lawton, then back to Guthrie for Sunday. Mrs. Stevens and Miss Gordon both spoke morning and evening, and Miss Gordon spoke at a children's rally in the afternoon, arranged by Mrs. Nellie Swan, state L. T. L. secretary. Mrs. Hillerman accompanied them on the entire trip.

### 1906

Convention met at Norman in the M. E. Church, South, Sept. 19, 20, 21, Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman presiding. Devotionals by Mrs. Hannah Corn, local president of the Norman union. Later a consecration service was held by Mrs. Neal B. Inman of Oklahoma City. Plans were made to carry on the campaign vigorously. A legislative board was appointed, composed of Mrs. Katie McWethy, Mrs. N. M. Carter, Mrs. Kate An-

derson, all of Guthrie, and the state president, Abbie B. Hillerman as chairman.

They were authorized to establish state headquarters at Guthrie during the constitutional convention, from which office legislative work could be carried on. Mrs. Cora D. Hammett was elected vice-president and editor of Messenger. This paper was kept brim full of prohibition material. At this time 20 of the 26 counties were organized and a paid up membership of 1,088. 110 towns were without saloons. Money raised for campaign work \$3,675.80.

Field workers were Mrs. Lila Carlin Moore, two months, Mrs. Nannie Webb Curtis of Texas, one month, Mrs. Grinstead, two weeks, and Mrs. Hillerman, five months field work. As a result there was another 500 gain in members.

Mrs. Katie Patterson had composed a song which she and Mrs. Hammett sang, "When the Star of Oklahoma takes her place upon the Flag."

Life memberships presented were Mrs. Angie Wilson, Mrs. Katie Patterson, Mrs. Cora D. Hammett, Mrs. E. H. Furrow, Mrs. M. Alice Miller, and Mrs. Rose D. Rodman. The treasurer, Mrs. McWethy, conducted the ceremony and smilingly accepted the money. Mrs. Vallie McKee was elected corresponding secretary.

President Boyd invited the delegates to attend chapel at the state university next morning and Mrs. Hillerman addressed the student on the value of prohibition statehood. Miss Leah Brown, daughter of Mrs. Sue Uhl Brown, won the diamond medal in the contest at night.

The last night of the convention was devoted to a demonstration of departments. This was largely under the direction of Mrs. Hammett and the Oklahoma City union. What it lacked in educational value it made up in enthusiasm, but the effort has never been repeated.

Mrs. Hillerman and Mrs. Hammett were elected delegates to the world's convention to be held in Boston in October. In recognition of her service the local unions contributed a purse of \$60.00 toward Mrs. Hillerman's expenses to this convention. They went on the White Ribbon Special from Chicago up through Canada along the St. Lawrence river with stops at Toronto and Montreal, crossing the river at Quebec. They were entertained in the historic old city of Boston with many others at the Franklin Square hotel, and were served the time honored baked beans Sunday morning for breakfast. Boston with its many old historical buildings, including the old North Church of Paul Revere fame, the old South Church, Fanuel Hall and Tremont Temple, where the sessions of the great convention were held, were full of interest to the westerners. Here they felt the breath of the Orient. More than thirty countries were represented by delegates. Mrs. Lillian M. N. Stevens presided in the absence of the world president.

Immediately after this came the national convention at Hartford, Conn. Other delegates from Oklahoma were Mrs. Katie Patterson, Mrs. M. E. Byrd and Mrs. Dr. Meredith. The Enabling Act had passed Congress and the Oklahoma delegates were celebrating. The last night of the convention was State Jubilee night, and Oklahoma had gained 500 members, so had five minutes. The Oklahoma delegates were all on the platform, and Mrs. Frances Graham sang one verse of the state song, and all joined in the chorus waving Old Glory and their bannerettes, then gave their yell prepared for the occasion, viz.:

"We're the sooners, we're the comers,  
We're the hustlers, we're the hummers,  
We're the newest star upon our nation's flag,  
We're out for prohibition, and the wily politician  
We mean to leave behind to hold the bag."

This was quite a hit and they were loudly applauded. At this point Miss Anna Gordon came on the stage with a national flag sent from Evanston for the occasion, giving to Mrs. Hillerman for Oklahoma and to Mrs. Lindsey for Indian Territory each a star to be pinned on at the highest point of blue. Mrs. Stevens looking on said gravely "This is United States Business."

Upon their return home they were soon hard at work and for the next three months led a strenuous life. Mrs. Hillerman moved to Guthrie to take charge of headquarters, with Mrs. McWethy as office secretary. A call was made to local unions for funds to carry on the campaign work. \$81.15 came in. A room was rented at \$10.00 per month. From this office hundreds of petition heads were sent out to local unions to secure lists of names for prohibition statehood. Hundreds of official letters were sent to ministers of all denominations, to schools and colleges asking them to pass resolutions for prohibition. In response to these, hundreds of petitions, letters, and protests soon began to come in. Mrs. McWethy arranged these by counties or districts and Mrs. Hillerman carried more than five thousand names to the Constitutional Convention, and through the help of the sergeant at arms, were placed on the desks of members. Each morning the reading clerk would read petitions with so many names for prohibition statehood.

Many committee meetings were attended, conferences held with other organizations, as well as interviews with members. One of the first of these was with M. C. N. Haskell of Muskogee. He gave them a courteous hearing, saying he was in sympathy with prohibition, and promised to vote for it, which he did on every roll call. Not infrequently a hasty call for the W. C. T. U. brought the ever ready Guthrie unions to the committee rooms. Or extra petitions needed to influence some obstreporous member.

Mrs. Hillerman arranged for the first public hearing

before the Liquor Traffic committee. There were fifteen members on this committee with Mr. Luke Roberts as chairman (a prohibitionist). The hearing was held in convention hall, with seventy-five per cent of the members present. Mrs. Nannie Webb Curtis of Texas came in response to a telegram and gave a masterly address to the delegates. A regular ovation was given her at the close.

After weeks of consideration and debate it was voted to submit prohibition statehood as a separate proposition, to be voted upon at the same time as the state constitution. Thus we were forced into another campaign for the adoption of this amendment. If it carried by a majority vote, it then became a part of the state constitution.

Mrs. Hillerman attended the constitutional convention 84 days. She and Mrs. McWethy gave over two months time to this work without compensation.

## 1907

### AFTER THE BATTLE, VICTORY

Fresh from the field of battle came the "victorious hosts" to the city of Lawton to celebrate the 18,000 majority vote in favor of state prohibition for Oklahoma. The opening service was one of praise and thanksgiving for the way the Lord hath led us. The familiar face of Emma Miller was not with us; she was sick at Claremore, but this message was sent to her: "After the battle, victory."

On welcome night Mrs. Mary Johnston voiced the cordial welcome for the local union. Mrs. Katie Patterson responded for the state. Mrs. Cora D. Hammett gave the report of the Oklahoma Messenger and had an exhibit of the papers. Mrs. Vallie McKee was forced to resign as corresponding secretary because of

ill health and Mrs. Hammett completed her report. Instead of a regular annual address the state president gave interesting experiences and incidents of the campaign. Local presidents gave reports of election day activities.

Mrs. Hillerman and Mrs. Hammett were appointed to attend the Indian Territory convention to be held at Afton, and present greetings and confer with them in reference to uniting with the Oklahoma W. C. T. U. as one state organization. Mrs. Hillerman attended as appointed but no action was taken at that time.

After the close of routine business the convention adjourned and the tired workers returned to their homes, except Mrs. Wm. Jenkins, who gave a Sunday address and Mrs. Nellie Swan, who held an L. T. L. rally Sunday afternoon.

Delegates to the national convention to be held at Nashville, Tenn., were Mrs. Hillerman, Mrs. Emma Miller, and Mrs. Nellie Swan. Oklahoma was again in the limelight because of the adoption of prohibition for the new state.

New officers elected were as follows: Cor. Sec., Mrs. Harriet D. Heberling; Rec. Sec., Mrs. Alice Blackburn; vice-president, Mrs. Cora D. Hammett.

After the close of the constitutional convention the state capitol was moved from Guthrie to Oklahoma City, where later a plot of ground was purchased and a beautiful building erected. In order to carry on the campaign for the adoption of the prohibition amendment to be voted on at the election, it was necessary to open headquarters in Oklahoma City, with Mrs. Hammett in charge. This was opened May 15, 1907, and continued until October 1, at \$10.00 per month. This was made a veritable beehive of activities. Literature, petitions, campaign songs, and the Oklahoma Messenger was kept full of prohibition ammunition. Total amount expended at headquarters \$614.05. Of this amount

\$250.00 came from the national union, Mrs. M. H. Byrd, Oklahoma City, \$200.00, and Mrs. Katie Patterson, Oklahoma City, \$110.00. In addition Mrs. Patterson paid the expenses of a colored worker for one month.

The Oklahoma W. C. T. U. acknowledges grateful appreciation for these most generous gifts.

Mrs. Nora M. Hill was in charge of the advertising department; with this she paid printing bills for the Messenger. Mrs. Hillerman was presented with a bound copy of the year's papers. In April Mrs. Hillerman was granted a leave of absence for rest. She accompanied her husband to Panama for a short visit, but was back again, and began campaign speaking on August 1st, and was constantly in the field until election day. Her report shows she spoke 110 times during the campaign for the adoption of the prohibition amendment to the constitution. This carried, and became a part of the constitution of Oklahoma.

## 1908

Oklahoma City, September 16, 17, 18, 1908. First Christian Church.

9:30 A. M. Convention called to order by the president, Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman. Devotionals, Mrs. Emma Miller. Crusade Psalm read and singing led by M. Alice Miller. Response to roll call showed twenty-five members of the executives present, and in addition 110 delegates. Mrs. Cora D. Hammett requested all delegates to register, and also called attention to the scrap bags on the seats and asked the delegates to use them for scrap paper. The yellow suggested suffrage. The decorations were beautiful and the wedding bells were suggestive of an approaching marriage. Reports and routine business occupied the day.

Welcome night was a very happy occasion. Mayor

Scales extended a very cordial welcome on behalf of the city. Dr. Phil C. Baird spoke for the churches and gladly welcomed this band of Christian women to the Queen City of the Southwest. Mrs. John Threadgill, president of the Federated Clubs, called attention to the kindred work of both organizations. Mrs. Mary K. Applegate welcomed the white ribbon sisterhood. Mrs. A. C. Zehnor of Texas responded.

Sept. 17, 9:30 A. M. Convention opened by singing "Jesus Savior Pilot Me." Reading of minutes and reports occupied the morning. Delegates and visitors from Indian Territory arrived and were introduced. A short memorial service was held, and noontide prayer by Mrs. Alta Stevens.

Afternoon devotionals by Mrs. Jennie Harlow. Mrs. A. A. Morgan gave a talk on mothers meetings. Mrs. Sue Uhl Brown of Eufaula arrived and was warmly welcomed as was also Mrs. Rachel E. Wodrow, former secretary.

"An Hour with Pioneers," conducted by Mrs. Elizabeth Hutchison, president of Kansas, was like a love feast. Mrs. Emma Miller reminded them that eighteen years ago the Oklahoma Territorial union was organized at Oklahoma City. Many personal experiences were related by the Crusaders, Mrs. Sue Uhl Brown, Mrs. Rachel E. Woodrow, Mrs. P. M. L. Ray, Mrs. E. H. Furrow, Mrs. Nellie Swan, Mrs. Nellie Sheplor, Mrs. Nell C. Woodson, Mrs. Susan F. Ward, Mrs. Mary Russell, Mrs. N. M. Carter, and Mrs. Hattie J. McKnight.

This was a very precious hour as they gave their experiences in establishing the cause of prohibition in the early soil of Oklahoma. The roses had faded from some of their cheeks, there were "silver threads among the gold," some eyes had grown dim, and steps a little slower, but the fire of a deathless determination to dethrone King Alcohol was still burning on the altar of

their hearts. They had enlisted in the war for life and could only be mustered out by death itself. Their consecration was an example for the younger women of today to follow. To many of them it was their last love feast together, until they answer the roll call up yonder. Mrs. Hutchison spoke tender words of appreciation for their years of service and sacrifice.

Report of the resolutions committee and final reading of the minutes closed the program.

Mrs. Emma Miller, who eighteen years before had moved that a territorial union be formed, now moved that the nineteenth annual convention adjourn, and the organization of the Oklahoma Woman's Christian Temperance Union be dissolved to become one in the new state union to be formed. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Nallie Swan of Guthrie, who was present at the first organization. Motion prevailed. The unbroken circle was formed and after singing "Blest be the Tie that Binds," the president, Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, declared the nineteenth annual convention adjourned and the organization dissolved.

## UNION *of OKLAHOMA and INDIAN TERRITORY*

Organization session held at First Christian Church Oklahoma City, Sept. 18, 1908.

10:00 A. M. The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Elizabeth P. Hutchison, national representative. She stated the object of the meeting was to unite the organizations into one state union to be called the Oklahoma Woman's Christian Temperance Union. The officers and delegates representing the two organizations were seated as per their resolutions.

On motion Mrs. M. Alice Miller was made temporary chairman and Mrs. Susie McKellop, temporary secretary. Mrs. Miller read the plan for uniting. On motion the chair appointed three on order of business, Mrs. Emma Miller, Mrs. Josephine Dorman and Mrs. Libbie Crawford. The credentials committee were Mrs. Kate Stafford, Mrs. Lila J. Ross and Mrs. Harriet D. Heberling. Number of delegates for Oklahoma, 135; number for Indian Territory, 17. Oklahoma paid dues to the state treasurer for 1500 members.

The joint committee on constitution and by-laws made their report, which was adopted. On motion they proceeded with the election of officers, which resulted as follows: Pres., Mrs. Cora D. Hammett, Oklahoma City; Vice-Pres., Mrs. Josephine Dorman, Mounds; Cor. Sec., Mrs. Harriet D. Heberling, Lamont; Rec. Sec., Mrs. Susie McKellop, Muskogee; Treas., Mrs.

Katie McWethy, Guthrie. Delegates elected to the national convention at Denver: Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey, Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, Mrs. Clara Hapson, and Mrs. Mamie Hill. Convention adjourned to prepare for the wedding banquet.

An elaborate banquet was served to 300 delegates and visitors. Toasts and responses were replete with wit and humor and the guests of honor, Mrs. Hutchinson and Mrs. A. C. Zehnor, made brilliant addresses. Mrs. Lindsey and Mrs. Hillerman responded to the toast, "What of the Future?" Delightful music marked the occasion, and Mrs. Hammett as the new president made a happy "inaugural address.

At the close of the banquet the executive committee was called together to complete the business of the session. Mrs. Hillerman had been appointed by the National W. C. T. U. as their representative for the Canal Zone. She sailed from New Orleans immediately after the Denver convention, and returned after six months work in the zone. She took field work upon her return to Oklahoma.

### I 909

The second annual convention of the Oklahoma State W. C. T. U. met at Stillwater Sept. 27-28-29-30, 1909, in the First Christian Church. Mrs. Cora D. Hammett presided with Mrs. Emma Miller in charge of the devotionals. After the strenuous campaigns through which we had recently passed and the stirring events incident to the union of the two territorial organizations, the W. C. T. U. officers directed their attention to working out plans and policies which would increase interest and extend organization. The goal set was "1000 new members."

Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey was elected state vice-president.

A visit to the A. & M. College was greatly enjoyed by all the delegates. Mrs. Hillerman gave a short address at the college, and Mrs. Lillian Phelps, the convention speaker, gave a fine address at night to the convention.

### I O I O

October 11, 12, 13. The southern city of Ardmore was hostess to the White Ribboners in 1910, and the delegates enjoyed the hospitality extended by Mrs. Laura Scott Bivins and her co-workers.

The convention met in the Broadway Methodist Church with the state president, Mrs. Cora D. Hammett, presiding. The second year of team work put us in better shape to pull together, so we were able to meet the challenge of a re-submission campaign. The "wets" were not all dead yet. Definite plans were made and the state president authorized to direct the forces. So well was this done that after a whirlwind campaign of three months the "drys" won by 21,000 majority, 3,000 more than the vote on prohibition two years before, showing the people were satisfied.

A visit to Hargrave College was planned and Mrs. Hammett addressed the students.

From the president's office 25,000 copies of Judge Brown's Digest of the Proposed Amendment were sent out, also 30,000 copies of the song "Keep Oklahoma Dry." The slogan "Keep Oklahoma Dry" was adopted also "Vote no on the Amendment."

Mrs. Lula Shephard of Utah was the convention speaker this year. Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman was made vice-president and Mrs. Almira M. Straughen recording secretary, with no other changes in officers.

*I 9 I I*

Shawnee, Sept. 27-28-29, 1911. The Fourth annual convention met in the Christian Church in Shawnee on September 27-28-29, 1911, Mrs. Cora D. Hammett, the state president, presiding. Mrs. Kate D. Brown voiced the cordial welcome as president of the Shawnee union. One year later she was called from "works to reward."

From the president's report we find much constructive work had been done. Aside from directing the campaign, she sent out \$25.00 of literature from the national and secured \$25.00 in donations for a prize in the intercollegiate contest. She secured the passage of the anti-polygamy resolution by the state legislature and worked for an S. T. I. law, but this was unsuccessful.

Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey proposed county presidents' conferences, which is now a fixed rule.

Mrs. G. B. Hester, pioneer worker from Muskogee, was presented and gave greetings.

Mrs. C. H. Everest presented Mrs. Hammett a beautiful set of silver knives and forks, the gift of her Oklahoma City union. She was also the recipient of a lovely beaded hand bag made by the daughter of the Indian Quanah Parker, the presentation being made by Mrs. Ella J. Barnes.

Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman was endorsed as delegate to the world's convention at Glasgow, Scotland.

Mrs. Almira Stranghen was nominated editor of the Oklahoma Messenger. Organizers in the field were: Miss Louise Hollister, Mrs. Mary Sibbits, Mrs. Senia Hartsell Wallace, and Mrs. Minnie J. Grinstead.

Officers elected at this time were as follows: President, Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman; vice-president, Mrs. Cora D. Hammett; Cor. Sec., Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey; Rec. Sec., Mrs. Almira M. Straughen; Treas., Mrs. Katie McWethy.

Rev. J. H. O. Smith, pastor of the Christian Church at Oklahoma City, delivered a splendid address at the night meeting.

### 1912

Tulsa, September 25, 26, 27. The Tulsa W. C. T. U. welcomed the fifth state convention at the First Presbyterian Church, with Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman presiding. After the devotionals led by the state vice-president, Mrs. Hammett, Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey, president of the Tulsa union, gave cordial greetings. Mrs. Lucy Belle Davis of Muskogee was parliamentarian. Routine business, consisting of reports from county presidents and state superintendents, occupied the time during the first day. Mrs. Laura Whipple presented the "Plan of Work" which was unanimously adopted.

On welcome night Rev. Kerr, pastor of the church in which the convention was held, gave an encouraging message. Mrs. W. A. Roth spoke for the Council of Women, and Mrs. Alice Wickizer extended official welcomes from county and local unions, with Mrs. Cora D. Hammett responding.

Mrs. Mary E. Rankin presented a fine grand gold medal contest the second night, and Miss Harned of Crescent, Logan county, was awarded the beautiful medal.

The unbroken circle was formed and the convention adjourned.

### 1913

September 24-25-26. Guthrie was the mecca toward which all white ribboners were turning in 1913. The spacious First M. E. Church was our home for the three days convention. It was a real pleasure to come to the city where the first local union in Oklahoma Ter-

ritory was organized and to meet members of this first local union who are still working. After the preliminary executive meetings the convention was called to order by the president, Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman. The following pioneers and crusaders came to the platform: Mrs. Emma Miller, Mrs. C. E. Swan, Mrs. P. M. L. Ray, Mrs. Hattie J. McKnight, Mrs. Nellie C. Woodson, Mrs. Margaret McCullough, and Mrs. Nellie Sheplor. Rev. H. C. Case, pastor of the church, offered prayer.

Mrs. E. H. Furrow, a pioneer, was too ill to attend but sent a generous supply of carnations and roses, Dorothy Miller, the four year old grand daughter of Emma Miller, presented the flowers.

The splendid reports showed work done along all lines. Outlined programs printed in the state minutes proved helpful to local unions. Mayor Nissley spoke earnestly in favor of law enforcement and was in hearty accord with the W. C. T. U. Vice Chancellor of the Epworth University gave an excellent address. Mrs. Herrod spoke for the Federated Clubs and Mrs. P. M. L. Ray for the county and local W. C. T. U. Letters and telegrams were sent to the state and county officers urging law enforcement.

The second night was one long to be remembered by the vast audience that had gathered to hear Bishop Robert McIntire of the M. E. Church in one of his famous lectures. He inspired, encouraged and incited to higher endeavor and nobler achievements everyone who heard him. This was among the last lectures for in a short time he passed to "life immortal."

No change was made in the state officers.

#### I 9 I 4

The state convention was held at Kingfisher on September 25-26-27 in the First Christian Church. After

a short song service led by Mrs. Mary E. Rankin with Mrs. Nelle C. Woodson at the piano, the president, Mrs. Hillerman, called the convention to order. Mrs. Nellie Sheplor, state evangelistic superintendent, led the devotionals, using Crusade Psalm 146. The regular convention committees were appointed. Mrs. R. D. Licklider of the Willard union in Oklahoma City gave a great spiritual lesson on Peace. The county president, Mrs. Zeda Pemberton, was presented and given the white ribbon salute. The reports of state officers showed a wide range of activities and extended organization.

The national president, Lillian M. N. Stevens, having passed away early in the year, a special memorial service was held for her and conducted by Mrs. Emma Miller. Mrs. Hillerman spoke of the passing of Bishop Robert McIntire, our convention speaker a year ago.

Mrs. Pemberton presented the name of Mrs. Mary Gamble for memorial membership, she having attended the first convention in Oklahoma territory. Mrs. Cora D. Hammett, state corresponding secretary, spoke of the flying squadron and their visit to Oklahoma City. Gov. J. Frank Hanley of Indiana and Mrs. Culla J. Vayhinger, president of the Indiana W. C. T. U., were the speakers of the party.

Mrs. Hillerman was presented with flowers from the Kingfisher union. Just before the election of officers the beloved state treasurer, Mrs. Katie McWethy, asked to be released from that office because of defective hearing. Many beautiful tributes were paid her for the twelve years of faithful service she had given. Mrs. Hammett presented her with a cut glass sugar and creamer, the gift of the convention. She responded with loving appreciation.

The following officers were then elected: President, Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman; Vice-Pres., Mrs. M. Alice Miller; Cor. Sec., Mrs. Cora D. Hammett; Rec. Sec.,

Mrs. Jennie L. Woods; Treas., Mrs. Almira Straughen; editor Messenger, Mrs. Straughen.

Mrs. Lila Carlin Moore was with us again this year.

Welcome night found the church crowded to capacity. Rev. Parker, pastor of the Congregational church, led in prayer. Mayor E. C. Pemberton delivered the address of welcome for the city and Rev. H. H. Saunders of the Christian church, and Mr. C. W. Smith for the Chamber of Commerce gave greetings. President C. D. Moody for the educational institutions and Mrs. J. H. Parker for the W. C. T. U. also gave greetings, with Mrs. Cora D. Hammett responding for the state.

Second night. The grand gold medal contest conducted by Mrs. Mary E. Rankin was unusually good. Mr. Ray Skinner of Payne county won the medal. At the close a beautiful gold lavalier was presented to Mrs. Rankin for her faithful service.

### 1915

Sept. 15-16-17. For the eighth time we came to Oklahoma City, where the Oklahoma Territorial union was born. This city has been generous in hospitality and in service. Mrs. Angie Wilson, Mrs. Minnie D. Storm, Mrs. Sue Uhl Brown, Mrs. Cora D. Hammett, Mrs. C. H. Everest, Mrs. Mamie Hill, Mrs. Mary K. Applegate, who served so long as county president; Mrs. G. I. Gordon, Mrs. Ellen Edwards, Mrs. Edith Hendricks, Grandma Brownell, Mrs. Katie Patterson and others came later. We record these names in grateful recognition of their work.

Convention was called to order by the president, Mrs. Hillerman, after devotionals by Mrs. R. D. Licklider. The joint hostess, Mrs. Hammett and Mrs. Applegate, were presented and extended cordial greetings. Mr. H. T. Laughbaum, superintendent of Anti-Saloon League, was introduced. He spoke of South

Carolina as the tenth state to enter the prohibition column this year, also of the pending legislation. Mrs. Hillerman reported the passage of the state S. T. I. law. Points of excellence for the local unions had been adopted and Mrs. Almira Straughen, as promoter, and Mrs. Gertie Shannon were appointed to make the award. Mrs. E. Norton White was given the award for the Sapulpa union.

Mrs. Hammet read a message of greeting from the national president, Anna A. Gordon. Mrs. Almira Straughen made a detailed report of the Oklahoma Messenger which was greeted by applause.

Final report of the credentials committee showed 97 voting members. The election followed, with no change in the state officers.

Memorial hour was conducted by the president. Mr. Laughbaum presented Mrs. Hillerman with a copy of the minutes of the first Indian Territory W. C. T. U. convention held at Tahlequah June 4, 1889.

Oklahoma county and Oklahoma Central union received the banners for gain in membership.

Welcome night was a great success. After the usual welcomes and response by M. Alice Miller, Hon. John Embry, then county attorney of Oklahoma county, discussed the question "Can the prohibition law of Oklahoma be enforced, and how?"

A unique demonstration entitled "Get in out of the Wet" was given, featuring South Carolina the youngest prohibition state getting under a big umbrella.

The second night. The grand gold medal contest given by Mrs. Mary Rankin was up to the usual high standard. Miss Melba Lankard of Kingfisher won the medal.

## 1916

In the Methodist Church at Perry, Oklahoma, on October 11, 12, 13, the W. C. T. U. of Oklahoma met to recount the victories and blessings of the past year and make plans for extended efforts. After calling the convention to order Mrs. Hillerman invited the crusaders and all those who helped entertain the convention fourteen years ago to the platform. A goodly number responded. With deep appreciation the names of Mrs. D. M. C. Smith, Mrs. H. V. Smith, Mrs. Lucy A. M. Boyes, Mrs. Libbie Crawford, Mrs. Jane K. Mars, Miss Jennie Laird, and Mrs. Martha E. Smith were recalled.

The usual reports of the state officers, county presidents and state superintendents were given. Among the special features this year were county institutes and two state institutes held. Mrs. Hammett and Mrs. Straughen were appointed to outline programs for local unions to include observance of Oklahoma day Nov. 16. Dec. 2 was designated as a day of prayer, the unions to take offerings for the Lillian M. N. Stevens Legislature fund to be used in securing national prohibition. On motion Mrs. Hammett, Mrs. Lindsey, and Mrs. Whipple were appointed to revise the plan of reporting. A ruling was made in reference to using the Atkinson Bequest of \$300.00 as an emergency fund for printing state minutes, field work and other necessary expenses, the same to be refunded each year before the state convention.

Mrs. Rankin awarded the prize to Mrs. Pearl Dalton for the largest number of medal contests held.

The president, Mrs. Abbie Hillerman, was made a life member of the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

Opening night was observed as usual with cordial greetings and responses. Mrs. Russell of Drumright

gave splendid readings. The second night, Mrs. Mary E. Rankin presented a diamond medal contest of high order. Mr. Ray Skinner again won the medal.

No change in officers was made except the vice-president, and Mrs. Nellie C. Woodson was named for the place.

Through the efforts of Mrs. Hammett the W. C. T. U. was recognized at the corner stone laying of the state capitol building. Copies of the state minutes, the Oklahoma Messenger, and other official papers, tied with the white ribbon, were placed in the receptacle with other state documents, and now rests under one of the great foundation stones of the Oklahoma state capitol.

### I 9 I 7

The tenth annual convention of the Oklahoma State Woman's Christian Temperance Union met in the Christian Church at El Reno on September 19-20-21. The state president, Mrs. Abbie Hillerman, presided and Mrs. Nellie Sheplor Rupert led the devotionals. Mrs. M. Alice Miller voiced the welcome and was appointed musical director. On motion of Mrs. Straughen, the state "pledge" was amended by striking out the words "as a beverage."

Mrs. Hammett read the plan from the national regarding the patriotic service committee. The president conducted the memorial hour. M. Alice Miller sang softly "The Home of the Soul." The name of Mrs. Sara Payton was given by her daughter for memorial membership.

Twenty-nine life memberships were presented, this being the largest number given at one time, with Mrs. Almira Straughen, state treasurer, presiding. Mrs. N. M. Carter called attention to the request from the government for economy on food stuffs because of the war.

A motion carried that the men be asked to observe one smokeless day a week as well as the families observe a meatless and wheatless day a week.

Mrs. Lindsey presented resolution regarding the location of the Girls' Industrial school. Bartlesville union was awarded first prize and Altus union the second prize on points of excellence. Mrs. Lindsey was awarded county membership banner and Mrs. Josephine Buhl received the banner for greatest gain in the local union. Mrs. Buhl was destined to become a leader of the state union but few realized it here. Mrs. Hillerman was authorized to give part of her time speaking on food conservation as Mr. Hoover had appointed her to this work. She also made recommendations for legislative work, covering anti-cigaret bill and the bill to raise age of consent from 13 to 16 years. Attended a conference on suffrage at Oklahoma City. Mrs. Almira Straughen and she attended state press association meeting at Shawnee and spoke on "Prohibition and Woman Suffrage." Governor Williams appointed Mrs. Hillerman and Mrs. Straughen delegates to the "Taft Peace League Meeting" in Oklahoma City, addressed by Hon. William Howard Taft in the interests of peace.

The state officers were designated as a committee on patriotic service to secure collections to apply on the ambulance fund, making and filling comfort bags for the soldiers and other war relief work. Local unions were urged to co-operate with the Red Cross whenever possible. The war clouds were hovering low and our nation had been drawn into the world war.

Mrs. Anna B. Hagler was elected vice-president with no other change in the officers.

1918

Hennessey, Sept. 18-19-20, 1918. This convention was called together by the president, Abbie B. Hiller-

man, under the shadow of the great war. Anxious mothers were watching and praying. Transportation service was interrupted so our convention was small. Mrs. Margaret Platt of Evanston, representing the literature department, was the convention guest. She gave much encouraging helpful counsel and instruction. She also brought a supply of literature which was placed on exhibit and most of it was sold to the unions. The president gave a detailed report of field work and a financial statement covering all collections and expenditures of money during the year. This was accepted. The state corresponding secretary, Cora D. Hammett, resigned in May of this year. The work of this office was also carried by the president until the appointment of Mrs. M. A. Morrison shortly before state convention.

Report of the Oklahoma Messenger was followed by discussion. Motion prevailed that all material sent to the Oklahoma Messenger for publication be submitted to the censorship of the editors in charge, that the matter of time, space and importance be left to their discretion. Following the election of officers Mrs. Hager presented Mrs. Hillerman with a beautiful engraved gold watch and with the love and confidence of the women of the Oklahoma W. C. T. U., to which she replied in tender words of thanks.

Mrs. Frank Shular, corresponding secretary of the National Suffrage Association, was present and urged active co-operation in the campaign to be waged in Oklahoma for suffrage. Later this amendment was adopted and the women of Oklahoma were enfranchised. On behalf of the official board a copy of the life of Frances Willard was sent to Mrs. Hammett in appreciation of her efficient service as corresponding secretary. After seven years of faithful service Mrs. Almira Straughen resigned as editor of the Oklahoma Messenger, as she was soon to leave the state for a time.

*I 9 I 9*

Tulsa, Okla., Oct. 29-30-31, Boston Avenue M. E. Church, South. The convention was called to order by Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman. The devotionals were conducted by Mrs. Alice M. David, president of Choteau union. Mrs. G. B. Hester of Muskogee and Mrs. Emma Miller of Guthrie were given seats of honor on the platform. Report of the mid-year executive committee held at Guthrie March 4-5, 1919, contains nomination of Vallie McKee as editor of the Oklahoma Messenger, which was ratified. Also appointment of Anna B. Hagler "Key woman for the National Jubilee drive." Mrs. Josephine M. Buhl had been appointed acting treasurer in the absence of Mrs. Straughen.

Mrs. Ida Wygant of Tulsa conducted the memorial service. The finance committee reported, recommending that each local union be asked to send a sum equal to \$1.00 per member to the state treasurer as a state jubilee offering. This was adopted. Later Mrs. Hagler reported that \$3,000.00 had been pledged to this fund. After much deliberation motion prevailed that the state quota be an amount equal to one dollar (\$1.00) per member; carried. The new corresponding secretary, Mrs. Elizabeth House, gave a survey of local unions and their needs, recommending extended field work. Mrs. H. B. Nelson of Muskogee offered an amendment to the constitution providing that local presidents be members of the state convention by virtue of their office. This carried. The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Abbie B. Hillerman; Vice-Pres., Anna B. Hagler; Cor. Sec., Elizabeth House; Rec. Sec., Jennie Shoults; Treas., Josephine M. Buhl.

Mrs. Ida Wygant presented a framed picture of the president to the state organization. Mrs. Ella Mathis, treasurer of Sapulpa, presented Mrs. Hillerman with beautiful white chrysanthemums from her home union.

At this point Mrs. Minnie J. Grinstead, the convention speaker, arrived and spoke briefly. Miss Edna Pyle, general secretary of the Y. W. C. A., gave an address on "Safeguarding Girls," which was very practical and helpful.

Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman was endorsed as delegate from Oklahoma to the World's W. C. T. U. convention to be held in London, England, April 16-21, 1920.

Welcome night was a happy occasion. All were officially welcomed to Tulsa by Dr. Barton for the churches, Mrs. W. N. Sill for the Federated Clubs, Mrs. Ida Wygant for the Federated W. C. T. U., and Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey for Tulsa county. At the close of Mrs. Lindsey's address she unfurled a beautiful victory banner, the gift of Tulsa county to the state. Mrs. Jennie Duffy gave a happy response. The second evening Hon. Minnie J. Grinstead, member of the Kansas State legislature, gave an address relating some of her political experiences. Many helpful suggestions were given to the new women voters. Plans for a legislative council of women were proposed by the state president. These to be acted upon at the mid-year executive meeting.

### STATE VICTORY MEETING

January 16, 1920.

Oklahoma City, First M. E. Church. 10 A. M.

Pioneers, Crusaders, state officers, county and local women gathered in Oklahoma City to celebrate the adoption of national prohibition. This was a day long to be remembered by those present. Welcomes were given by Mrs. G. I. Gordon, president of the Federated unions, and Mrs. Mary K. Applegate, president of Oklahoma county. Devotionals led by Mrs. Applegate,



MRS. ANNA B. HAGLER  
Hominy  
Former Vice-President and Union  
Signal Promoter



MRS. ALICE M. DAVID  
Oklahoma City  
Former Vice-President and  
Organizer



presiding officer of the day. Opening song, "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name." Reading of Crusade Psalm. Prayer, Mrs. G. B. Hester and Mrs. Emma Miller.

The Victory Song composed by Mrs. Applegate was sung by a double quartette.

The chorus "Hallelujah, shout the victory, Hallelujah, Amen." The audience arose and gave Mrs. Applegate the white ribbon salute.

Reminiscences of the early days by Mrs. Emma Miller and Mrs. G. B. Hester were full of thrilling experiences. Mrs. Hester spoke of the days in Indian Territory when Indians and cowboys carried whiskey jugs in sacks on horse back, and shot up the towns; days when the W. C. T. U. women had to meet secretly if at all. She also told of Miss Frances Willard's first visit to Indian Territory, when an organization was perfected at Muskogee. Mrs. Hester has lived here sixty-three years. Mrs. Emma Miller of Guthrie, another crusader and pioneer, told of the early work in the Oklahoma legislature to secure better laws, and how they stayed until five o'clock in the morning to prevent the passage of a bill to reduce the age of consent to seven years. They also secured the passage of the anti-prize fight and anti-gambling bills. Messages of greeting were read from Mrs. Sue Uhl Brown and Mrs. Nellie Sheppard Rupert, both former presidents. Mrs. Angie Wilson sent greetings but was unable to attend. Mrs. Nell C. Woodson was gratefully remembered. Mrs. H. B. Spalding of Muskogee told of the first convention of Indian Territory at Tahlequah, when Mrs. L. Jane Stapler was president and she was secretary.

Mrs. P. M. L. Ray of Guthrie spoke on "Holding the Line." Mrs. N. M. Carter reviewed the work of our women at the constitutional convention at Guthrie and many interesting incidents connected with it, especially the W. C. T. U. hearing before the liquor traffic

committee. Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey, the last president of Indian Territory, spoke on the union of the two organizations and of the marriage feast at Oklahoma City. Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, state president, spoke on "The Victory and what it means." The treasurers, Mrs. McWethy and Mrs. Hopson, sent regrets.

Mrs. Cora D. Hammett gave a review of her work as state corresponding secretary and as first president of the united organizations. Mrs. Almira M. Straughen, who had served Oklahoma as recording secretary, state treasurer, and editor of the Oklahoma Messenger, returned to Oklahoma to be present upon this occasion. Her message was a call to service in the Oklahoma W. C. T. U.

At noon a sumptuous banquet was served, and over two hundred sat down to the feast. Toasts and responses were given.

The afternoon session was replete with good things spoken by Rev. Forney Hutchinson, Hon. John Embry, U. S. Attorney. Mrs. Lola Pearson, president of Federated Clubs, spoke on "Co-operation Necessary to Success." Rev. Staley spoke on the Eighteenth Amendment. Mrs. Jennie Duffy gave an original poem. Mrs. Van Leuven discussed "Women in Industry." Mrs. Annetta Constant, Mrs. Jane K. Mars and other pioneers spoke briefly. The afternoon session adjourned to give time for an official board meeting.

## 1920

Sapulpa, Okla., Sept. 22-23-24, 1920. The state president, Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, welcomed the delegates to her home town and home church, First Methodist Episcopal.

Convention opened by singing "My faith looks up to Thee," with prayer voiced by Mrs. Laura Whipple. Our honored pioneers, Mrs. G. B. Hester and Mrs.



MRS. JOSEPHINE M. BUHL  
President Oklahoma  
W. C. T. U.



MRS. J. MYRTLE KESSELRING  
Tulsa  
State Vice-President



MRS. ANNA D. DeWALT  
Muskogee  
State Treasurer, Oklahoma  
W. C. T. U.



Emma Miller, occupied seats on the platform. Their presence was a benediction to the convention for to Mrs. Miller it was her last, for ere another year rolled around she had answered to "roll call up yonder."

Mrs. Hester sang many sweet melodies all loved to hear. Mrs. Josephine Dorman, county president of Creek county, gave hearty greetings. Mrs. Claudia Hightower, recording secretary of Texas W. C. T. U., was introduced and gave greetings, also Miss Julia Mae Peak, a delegate to the world's convention, and Rev. Roy Crawford, pastor of the hostess church.

Mrs. Anna B. Hagler and Mrs. Elizabeth House gave interesting reports of the regional conference held at Fort Worth, Texas.

The state president was called upon to give a brief report of her trip to Europe, covering a period of two months and visiting five countries, England, Wales, Belgium, France, and Switzerland. The great convention in London was a wonderful inspiration. Delegates from 22 countries were present. The world's president, Countess of Carlisle, presided with great ability and decision. Mrs. Ella A. Boole, national vice-president at large, conducted the party of twelve through the continent. She was well versed and most helpful to all the party. Personally, I wish to express my debt of gratitude to Mrs. Ella Mathis, local treasurer, to the W.C.T.U., and the home folks here whose generosity make the trip possible. The long years of service in the W. C. T. U. fitted me better to enjoy this treat in the closing year of my presidency for I must retire. I have given to the Oklahoma W. C. T. U. the best years of my life, glad to lay upon the altar of this great cause, a consecrated service to help bring in state and national prohibition. No annual state convention has been missed for twenty years.

The election of officers followed: President, Mrs. Josephine M. Buhl; Vice-Pres., Mrs. Alice M. David;

Cor. Sec., Mrs. Elizabeth House; Rec. Sec., Mrs. Ida B. Flenor; Treas., Mrs. Anna D. DeWalt.

The new president was graciously welcomed as Mrs. Hillerman realized that the burden which had grown heavy was soon to slip from her shoulders to one who in the prime of young womanhood could "carry on" in the name of our Master. Mrs. M. Alice Miller moved that the retiring president, after serving fourteen years as state president, be made honorary state president and remain a member of the official board of the state W. C. T. U. Motion carried.

A jubilee demonstration conducted by Mrs. Hagler was greatly enjoyed by all. North side union of Tulsa won the prize on points of excellence. Muskogee's invitation for the next state convention was accepted. Minutes of the closing session were read and approved. the unbroken circle was formed. Mrs. Emma Miller offered the closing prayer. Mrs. Hillerman presented the white ribbon gavel to the new president, Mrs. Josephine M. Buhl, and the thirteenth annual convention became history.

### I 9 2 I

October 20, 21, 22. First Christian Church, Muskogee, Okla. For the first time since statehood the state Woman's Christian Temperance Union met in Muskogee, the city with a history. The president, Mrs. Josephine M. Buhl, presiding. Prayer was voiced by Mrs. Alice M. David. The Crusade Psalm was read responsively. A cordial greeting was given by the new president, asking the help and co-operation of the women in the future as they had given it in the past. She was given the white ribbon salute as pledge of loyalty.

This was the home of the state treasurer but she was in St. Louis with her sick husband. A message of love and sympathy was wired to her. In a few weeks he passed to the "better land."



MRS. ELIZABETH HOUSE  
Bristow  
State Corresponding  
Secretary



MRS. IDA B. FLEENOR  
Oklahoma City  
State Recording  
Secretary



MRS. JENNIE DUFFY  
Hennessey  
State L. T. L. Secretary



MRS. MARY E. RANKIN  
Perkins  
State Superintendent Medal  
Contests.



Roll call by the recording secretary showed a good attendance at the opening session. A real southern welcome awaited the delegates from Muskogee comrades, Mrs. G. M. Swanson, Mrs. Jennie Shoults, Mrs. H. B. Nelson, Dr. DeVasher, and the local presidents, Mrs. J. S. Stallings, Mrs. J. E. Nally.

Reports of county presidents and state superintendents were very encouraging. Letters of greeting were sent to Mrs. Almira M. Straughen and Mrs. Katie McWethy, former officers. Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman conducted a very sacred memorial hour. The name of Mrs. Emma Miller was first on the list, and many touching tributes were paid to her life and work as the pioneer W. C. T. U. woman in Oklahoma. Special mention was made of Mrs. Nellie Sheplor Rupert, a former president, Mrs. Mary Cranston, Mrs. A. C. Bancroft, and Mrs. Emma Madden, all prominent in the work. Mrs. Florence Smith sang softly, and Mrs. Mary K. Applegate closed with fervent prayer for those whose loved ones have passed on.

The corresponding secretary's report for the year as given was most comprehensive and encouraging. Mrs. Mae A. Thompson reported for the treasurer. The honorary president reported one month's field work. The annual address of the president was a call to service to all white ribboners. The vice-president, Mrs. Alice M. David, had been much afield with good results.

Mrs. Hillerman presented a resolution in favor of Bible reading in the public schools, and asked that this department be adopted by the state. This was done and Mrs. Hillerman made state superintendent. Mrs. Angelina Russel gave a group of readings at this time to delight the convention. Tulsa North Side union won the prize in the standard of excellence. Mrs. G. B. Hester, pioneer of Indian Territory, was introduced and gave reminiscences of the early days. Her sweet voice was heard in prayer and song.

Alfalfa county won the banner for greatest gain in county and it was presented to Mrs. Mattie Hockman, county president. Mrs. George Pass, president Oklahoma county, was awarded banner for greatest gain in local union, Edmond union.

Ninety-two delegates present. No change made in state officers. State organizers, Mrs. Anna B. Hagler and Mrs. Ida M. Wygant, made reports. Y. P. B. secretary, Mrs. L. A. Hurst, and L. T. L. secretary, Mrs. Jennie Duffy, gave reports and talks on their work.

The welcome night banquet was an unusually brilliant affair held at the Severs Hotel. Mrs. G. M. Swanson gave formal welcome and then introduced the toast mistress, Mrs. Josephine M. Buhl, who presented the numbers on the program by original verses prepared for the occasion. Rev. J. L. Brant spoke for the ministerial alliance, Prof. Charles B. Smith for the schools, Mrs. Phil Brown for the women voters, and Mrs. Gabe Parker for the clubs. The response was given by Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman. Mr. Millard F. Meadows spoke on law enforcement problems.

Convention speaker was Dr. Valeria H. Parker, who gave wonderful addresses on Social Morality. Women assigned to Sunday pulpits were Mrs. Alice M. David, Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, Mrs. Ida M. Wygant, Mrs. Anna B. Hagler. About 75 new members were secured at these services.

Mrs. Hagler as Key woman reported the jubilee fund all raised and the following names inscribed in the "Book of Remembrance" at Evanston, Ill.: Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey, Mrs. Emma Miller, Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, Mrs. Anna B. Hagler, Mrs. Cora D. Hammett, Mrs. Almira M. Staughen, Mrs. Cora Leonard, Mrs. Alice M. David.

Convention adjourned.

**I 9 2 2**

The fifteenth annual state convention of the Oklahoma W. C. T. U. met in the First Christian Church in Enid, October 12, 13, 14, 1922. The quiet hour, led by the state president, Mrs. Josephine M. Buhl, was a spiritual uplift and inspiration. Prayer has ever been the sheet anchor of their hopes. Mrs. Mattie Hackman voiced the closing prayer.

Mrs. Iva Butts was introduced and bid us welcome on behalf of the local union. A letter of greeting was read from Miss Anna A. Gordon, national president, and Almira M. Straughen, a former state officer. Many greetings were sent to pioneer workers and absent members.

Mrs. Mary E. Rankin, for many years medal contest superintendent, was presented and spoke of the pioneer work in Oklahoma. She now lives in Iowa.

Mrs. Elizabeth House conducted the memorial hour, presenting the names of many who have passed away during the year, among them Mr. Robert Hammett, devoted husband of the former president, Mrs. Cora D. Hammett, and James Henry Kesselring, the seven year old son of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Kesselring.

Reports of all state officers and the annual address of the president were full of encouragement for the successful completion of the jubilee membership drive as outlined by the national W. C. T. U. Much field work had been done, forty new unions and eight counties organized. Upon the recommendation of the president the state was divided into districts and a state worker assigned to each one for organization. It was successful in part. At the noon hour a most helpful citizenship conference was held. Information was given on the attitude of various candidates for office, regarding their stand on prohibition and law enforcement, Lilah D. Lindsey and Ida M. Wygant in charge.

Afternoon session. Mrs. House reported ninety-six delegates present. Only one change in officers, Mrs. Ida M. Wygant elected vice-president. Motion prevailed that a school of instruction be held in Guthrie in connection with the mid-year executive meeting.

Guest of honor at this meeting was Mrs. Deborah Knox Livingston, the brilliant and beloved national director of Christian citizenship. Those who heard her masterly address will never forget it. She was one of the most able speakers in the National. In a few short months she too had passed to Life Immortal.

Mrs. Josephine M. Buhl and Mrs. Anna D. DeWalt were elected delegates to the world's convention in Philadelphia in November. In addition to these Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, Mrs. Alice M. David, Mrs. Ida B. Fleenor, Mrs. Jennie Duffy, Mrs. J. Myrtle Kesseling, Mrs. Richard W. Burkhart, and Mrs. Hattie Shannon attended the world's, and national convention immediately following it.

First night program at Enid opened with an informal reception followed by banquet and program, Mrs. Josephine M. Buhl presiding.

Woman's New Day was the general subject discussed as follows:

Women's New Day at the Ballot Box—Abbie B. Hillerman.

In the Enforcement of Law—Kathryn Van Leuven, assistant attorney general.

In Legislation—Mrs. Daisy Riehl, president woman's legislative council.

In Industry—Mrs. Ethel Elliot, representing labor commissioner.

In the Church—Alice M. David.

In the Home—Ida M. Wygant.

In the W. C. T. U.—Mrs. Elizabeth House.

Solo by Mrs. Florence Smith and a reading by Mrs. Angelina Russel closed a delightful program.

The second night Dr. John F. Brandt, pastor of the First Christian Church at Muskogee, gave a splendid address on law enforcement.

Saturday night Mrs. Pearl Dalton put on a gold medal contest. On Sunday the state speakers occupied the local pulpits. A goodly number of new members was secured.

### I 9 2 3

Tulsa, October 3, 4, 5, 1923.

The commodious First Christian church was the W.C.T.U. home for the delegates during the sixteenth annual convention. Tulsa is the home of the state president, who called the convention to order and welcomed the delegates to her home city. The county president, Mrs. Ruth Montgomery, and Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey, president of the Federation, added their welcomes to those of the president.

Prayer by the honorary president, Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman. All officers answered to roll call by the secretary, Mrs. Ida B. Fleenor. Morning session devoted to reports and routine business.

The memorial hour by Mrs. Ida M. Wygant brought sadness to the hearts of all. President Warren G. Harding and Deborah Knox Livingston, both great souls, had passed away during the year. Mrs. Ralph Kistler sang softly "The City Four Square."

The annual address of the president and reports of the state officers were given and greeted with the white ribbon salute and flowers, the gift of Tulsa Federation.

We quote the following from the splendid address of the president:

"From the birth of the commonwealth up to the present time, not a measure has passed the legislature relating to the liquor traffic except in the direction of making the existing laws more stringent.

"Through all this series of prohibition legislation, the

Oklahoma Woman's Christian Temperance Union has been in the midst of the fight. History fails to record the sacrifices of our pioneer women, who prayed, planned and pushed until the enemy was overthrown; of the speaking campaigns conducted in connection with each new uprising of the enemy; of the marches and parades of the school children who marched under the Stars and Stripes, thereby appealing to the voters of Oklahoma to shield them from the accursed drink traffic. As we mention the names of our consecrated pioneer leaders, such as Dorothy Cleveland, Emma Miller, Abbie B. Hillerman, Lilah D. Lindsey, and many others, our heads bow in reverence to the sacrifices they have made in making Oklahoma safe for little feet to follow."

The blessed heritage of a dry state that is ours, carries with it a great responsibility—that of keeping it dry by the enforcement of the prohibition laws. This is our heritage, our responsibility today, dear women. Nothing but our best is fit to be added to the records of those brave women who have gone before us.

Oklahoma how we love thee  
Dearest state of all the West;  
As we think of former comrades  
We pledge to thee our best.  
From a few undaunted sisters  
To five thousand we have grown,  
Living true unto our motto—  
"No saloon shall wreck a home."  
In this fair state, this Indian country,  
Which from bondage was set free,  
By the noble deeds of women  
Led by God on bended knee.  
"Law enforcement" is our slogan,  
As we give to Thee our best;  
Bless us Lord in Oklahoma,  
Dearest State of all the West.

—JOSEPHINE M. BUHL.

Oklahoma W. C. T. U. set the pace in efficiency by giving to each local union member an outlined printed program for the year, together with literature for these programs. The state corresponding secretary, Mrs. Elizabeth House insists that well prepared programs, with up to date material will hold the members and insure their attendance at the meetings. Mrs. House devotes much time to the preparation of these programs and sending literature and encouraging local unions.

The W.C.T.U. members on the legislative council of women were Josephine M. Buhl, Abbie B. Hillerman, and M. Alice Miller.

Mrs. J. Myrtle Kesselring was elected vice-president. Sickness prevented Mrs. Wygant's continuing in the office.

Mrs. Culla J. Vayhinger of Indiana, national director of Americanization work, was convention speaker. Her masterly addresses and charming personality won all hearts to the great cause she represents. Mrs. G. I. Cordon, director of this department in the state, presided at a specially arranged conference in the afternoon, addressed by Mrs. Vayhinger.

The membership campaign from March 20 to May 13 resulted in a substantial increase in members.

Plans were considered for holding state jubilee meetings next year. Mrs. Elizabeth House and Mrs. J. Myrtle Kesselring, who attended the fiftieth national jubilee convention in Columbus, Ohio, gave interesting reports of this great meeting.

Mrs. Mae A. Thompson, the faithful editor of the Oklahoma Messenger, gave a splendid report of the paper and was presented with beautiful flowers, the gift of Mrs. DeWalt, who is known in W. C. T. U. circles as the generous "flower giver."

Under the efficient management of Mrs. Pearl Dalton, contest superintendent, a diamond medal contest closed the convention program.

A very delightful reception was given by the state president at her lovely home, assisted by local women. This was largely in honor of Mrs. Culla J. Vayhinger.

### I 924

Oklahoma City, October 15, 16, 17, First M. E. Church.

9:30. Fellowship hour, presided over by the state president, was a spiritual uplift to all present. A beautiful solo by Mrs. Ralph P. Kistler closed the program.

Convention opened with Mrs. Josephine M. Buhl presiding. Crusaders on the platform were Mrs. Jane K. Mars, Rev. Hannah Hubbard, Mrs. Margaret McCullough, Mrs. Amie Becker.

Song "Give to the Wind Thy Fears," and reading Crusade Psalm.

Prayer by the honorary president.

Words of welcome were given by Mrs. Ida B. Fleenor for her home city, Mrs. Mary K. Applegate and Mrs. George Pass for the county, and Mrs. Vallie McKee for the Federated unions. In closing she gave these very terse lines:

"We just shake hands in greeting the many that come nigh,

We nod our heads on meeting the hundreds that pass by,

But welcome through the gateway, the W. C. T. U.  
Our hearts leap up and straightway there's open house for you."

Response was unanimous, for all had felt the generous hospitality of Oklahoma City. Mrs. D. A. Talbot, president of Central union, had been busy assigning delegates to their beautiful homes. All state officers responded to roll call.

This convention marked the closing of the five year membership campaign. Plans for holding the increased

membership were made. Number of dues paying members 5,135. Enrolled members 7,895. Total gain above all losses 1075. Tulsa county has the largest membership, and Oklahoma county second. Alfalfa county has the most unions, Mrs. Mattie Hockman, president.

Memorial service the first afternoon conducted by Mrs. Hillerman. This time we were called upon to pay tribute to our convention speaker of last year, Mrs. Culla J. Vayhinger, who had been promoted to heavenly activities. Also Mrs. Ella S. Foresman, president Beaver county, and Mrs. Rose Z. Burnette, for many years the faithful president of Ft. Gibson union, and many others we would mention did space permit.

Hon. H. T. Laughbaum, superintendent Anti-Saloon League, was introduced and spoke briefly. The annual address of the president and her recommendations were accepted with a rising vote of thanks. The honorary president had been much in the field and reported 903 new members as a result of her work. The treasurer's report was of special interest, and was received with enthusiasm.

Report of the corresponding secretary, Mrs. House, covered a wide range of activities, and showed the local unions had been unusually active.

Mrs. Alice M. David gave a unique union signal demonstration, assisted by the Edmond union.

A letter of greeting was read from Mrs. Cora D. Hammett, the first president of the united organizations. She had been ill some time and was unable to attend the convention. A message of love and sympathy together with flowers were sent to her by Mrs. Hillerman and Mrs. Lindsey. Mrs. Buhl visited her later. She did not recover and in a few weeks was called from works to reward.

Mrs. Ida B. Wise Smith was convention speaker and gave a fine address in the evening. She spoke at a noon luncheon before the Chamber of Commerce. The vice-

president, Mrs. J. Myrtle Kesselring, conducted devotionals at the evening meeting.

Plans were made at this convention for holding five state jubilee meetings, the first to be at Bartlesville in March with Mrs. Mary Harris Armor, the renowned orator as speaker. This one to be followed by meetings at Edmond, Ponca City, Alva, Snyder and Ada. The state president attended at Edmond, Alva, Woodward and Snyder. Mrs. Armor spoke at Muskogee, Oklahoma City and Tulsa. The honorary president attended all the meetings and was assisted at Ponca City and Ada by the vice-president, Mrs. Kesselring, and Mrs. De-Walt. Mrs. Maud B. Perkins also visited Oklahoma in the interest of the Young People's Branch; Mrs. Ruth Montgomery assisted her.

Friday afternoon session in state capitol.

1:30 P. M. House of Representatives. Mrs. Josephine M. Buhl presiding. Devotionals, Mrs. Elizabeth House, state corresponding secretary.

Address of welcome, Hon M. E. Trapp, governor of Oklahoma.

Response, Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, honorary president.

Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey, state director of citizenship, was introduced and unfurled a beautiful American flag and placed it on the platform. She then introduced Mrs. Ida B. Wise Smith, national director of citizenship, who gave a wonderful address upon the work of her department.

An official greeting was given by our own Mrs. Kathryn Van Leuven, assistant attorney general.

In response to a call for members, Miss Lorine Stivers, daughter of Mrs. B. C. Stivers, the county president of Creek county, came forward and Mrs. Smith, the speaker, pinned the white ribbon on her, thus dedicating her to a life of service in the W. C. T. U.

Song, "Blest be the Tie that Binds."

Minutes of the afternoon read and approved and the president, Mrs. Josephine M. Buhl, declared the seventeenth annual convention adjourned.

4:30. Governor and Mrs. Trapp gave an informal reception in the parlors at the capitol to the entire convention. Opportunity was given the delegates to inspect the capitol building. An automobile ride over the city closed an enjoyable afternoon.

"The Oklahoma Banquet" given the first night probably eclipsed any former one given at state conventions. In part it was a review of Oklahoma history.

Mrs. Josephine M. Buhl, toastmistress.

Invocation, Rev. Charles A. Hartman.

Song, "March of Allegiance."

W. C. T. U. Pioneer Days Indian Territory, Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey.

W. C. T. U. Pioneer Days Oklahoma, Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman.

Solos, "The Prophetess," from Esther, and "Victory," Mrs. Nell C. Woodson.

"Born Dry," Hon. H. T. Laughbaum, superintendent Anti-Saloon League.

Solo, "It is in the Constitution," Mrs. Florence Smith.

State Government Past and Present, Attorney Baxter Taylor.

A Great Past, A Greater Future, Mrs. Alice M. David.

Solo, "Oklahoma," Mrs. Ralph P. Kistler.

Five minute greetings from state officials.

Mrs. Kathryn Van Leuven, assistant attorney general.

Hon. M. A. Nash, superintendent public schools.

Mrs. Mable Bassett, state commissioner charities and corrections.

Hon. Claude Connally, labor commissioner.

## MID-YEAR EXECUTIVE MEETING

*1925*

Chickasha, Okla., Feb. 18-19. Mrs. Josephine M. Buhl, presiding.

A cordial welcome was extended by the local president, Mrs. Effie Bateman. All state officers were present except Mrs. Elizabeth House, who had been called to Pennsylvania on account of sickness and death in her family. Mrs. Lillian Michner, president of Kansas W. C. T. U. was the guest and speaker upon this occasion. Her timely talks during the day sessions were practical and helpful. At night she addressed a large audience on the department work of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

Plans were outlined for the state institutes, and the counties grouped and leaders appointed for each group.

President Austin of the Oklahoma Woman's College was introduced at the morning session and paid high compliment to the work of the W. C. T. U. Mrs. Nannie Webb Curtis of Texas will be remembered as his sister. President Austin invited the entire executive committee to visit the college that evening and inspect the buildings. Mrs. Austin proved a very gracious hostess and all enjoyed seeing this splendid college and the equipment.

After a two days conference together on plans and methods of work all felt better prepared to go back to their counties and bring their unions up to the standard.

*1925*

Bartlesville, September 23, 24, 25.

Convention called to order by the president, Josephine M. Buhl. Roll call responded to by all state officers.

Bartlesville gave a royal welcome to the eighteenth

annual convention of the Oklahoma Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

Reading minutes of board and executive meetings. Appointment of committees and reports of county presidents. A special memorial service was held for Mrs. Cora D. Hammett, former state president, also for other members who had passed away during the year. An officers' meeting was held at Sapulpa in November, at which time it was decided to create state memberships for those who are removed from local unions. Membership dues to be sent direct to the state treasurer and members to receive the Oklahoma Messenger. This union to be called the Abbie B. Hillerman Union. There are now over one hundred paid up members. These were secured largely by Mrs. Laura B. Hale during her stay in Oklahoma. Mrs. Hale did much personal and house to house work.

The counties were grouped again this year and fifteen state institutes were held. Mrs. Ida B. Wise Smith was in the state and attended ten of these groups. All were delighted with her addresses.

Mrs. Alice M. David gave valuable help at Ada, Holdenville, Norman and Weatherford. Mrs. Ida B. Fleenor, state recording secretary, presided at Norman. Mrs. Elizabeth House presided at Enid and Perry; Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey president at Vinita, and Mrs. Ida Wygant at Tulsa. Mrs. Hillerman conducted the meetings at Hugo, Ardmore, Altus, and Woodward. Mrs. Charlott B. Seaton presided at Woodward. Mrs. Alice Blackburn, a former recording secretary, served as secretary at Woodward.

Special legislative work was done for the child labor amendment and Bible reading in public schools bills. This bill passed both houses but was vetoed by the governor.

Local programs were unusually good. Studies in Government, by Lilah D. Lindsey, director of citizen-

ship, and Studies in the Book of Acts formed the study course this year. Diplomas will be awarded in the citizenship department.

This year has been a fitting close to thirty-five years of service for the Oklahoma Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

### OKLAHOMA ANNUAL MEETINGS

- 1890. Oklahoma City, April 29; Mrs. W. L. Rhodes, President.
- 1890. Guthrie, October 8, 9; Mrs. A. G. Murray, President.
- 1891. Oklahoma City, Oct. 7, 8, 9; Mrs. J. E. Roberts, El Reno, President.
- 1892. El Reno, October 12, 13, 15; Mrs. Nellie Shepler, President.
- 1893. Oklahoma City, Nov. 10, 11, 12; Mrs. Matilda Switzer, President.
- 1894. Guthrie, October 17, 18; Mrs. Matilda Switzer, President.
- 1895. Perry, October 14, 15, 16; Mrs. Amelia Mentz, President.
- 1896. El Reno, November 11, 12; Mrs. Sue Uhl Brown, President.
- 1897. Guthrie, October 19, 20, 21; Mrs. Susie B. Jackson, President.
- 1898. Okarche, Sept. 28, 29, 30; Mrs. Catherine E. Ferguson, President.
- 1899. Kingfisher, Sept. 12, 13, 14; Mrs. Catherine E. Ferguson, President.
- 1900. Guthrie, October 2, 3, 4; Mrs. Dorothy J. Cleveland, President.
- 1901. Oklahoma City, October 19, 20, 21, 22; Mrs. Dorothy J. Cleveland, President.
- 1902. Perry, Sept. 18, 19, 20, 21; Mrs. Dorothy J. Cleveland, President.

- 1903. Alva, Sept. 24, 25, 26, 27; Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, President.
- 1903. September 13, 14, 15; Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, President.
- 1904. El Reno, September 14, 15, 16; Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, President.
- 1905. Shawnee, September 13, 14, 15; Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, President.
- 1906. Norman, September 19, 20, 21; Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, President.
- 1907. Lawton, September 19, 20, 21; Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, President.
- 1908. Oklahoma City, Sept. 16, 17, 18; Mrs. Cora D. Hammett, President.
- 1909. Stillwater, Sept. 27, 28, 29, 30; Mrs. Cora D. Hammett, President.
- 1910. Ardmore, October 11, 12, 13; Mrs. Cora D. Hammett, President.
- 1911. Shawnee, Sept. 27, 28, 29; Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, President.
- 1912. Tulsa, Sept. 25, 26, 27; Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, President.
- 1913. Guthrie, Sept. 24, 25, 26; Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, President.
- 1914. Kingfisher, Sept. 23, 24, 25; Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, President.
- 1915. Oklahoma City, Sept. 15, 16, 17; Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, President.
- 1916. Perry, October 11, 12, 13; Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, President.
- 1917. El Reno, Sept. 19, 20, 21; Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, President.
- 1918. Hennessey, Sept. 18, 19, 20; Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, President.
- 1919. Tulsa, October 29, 30, 31; Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, President.

1920. September 22, 23, 24; Mrs. Josephine M. Buhl, President.

1921. Muskogee, October 20, 21, 22; Mrs. Josephine M. Buhl, President.

1922. Enid, October 12, 13, 14; Mrs. Josephine M. Buhl, President.

1923. Tulsa, October 3, 4, 5; Mrs. Josephine M. Buhl, President.

1924. Oklahoma City, Oct. 15, 16, 17; Mrs. Josephine M. Buhl, President.

### VICE-PRESIDENTS

Mrs. A. G. Murray, Oklahoma City.....	April to October, 1890
Mrs. Nellie Sheplor, Oklahoma City.....	1903 to 1905
Mrs. Mitchell, Enid.....	1895—1896
Mrs. D. M. C. Smith, Perry.....	1896—1897
Mrs. Amelia Mentz, Perry.....	1897—1898
Mrs. Emma Miller, Guthrie, District President.....	1899—1900
Mrs. Sue Uhl Brown, Oklahoma City, District Pres.	1899—1900
Mrs. Catherine E. Ferguson, Norman.....	1900—1901
Mrs. W. M. Jenkins, Guthrie.....	1901—1902
Mrs. L. Ella Hartley, Tecumseh.....	1902—1904
Mrs. M. Alice Miller, El Reno.....	1904—1906
Mrs. Cora D. Hammett, Oklahoma City.....	1906—1908
Mrs. Josephine Dorman, Mounds.....	1908—1909
Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey, Tulsa.....	1909—1910
Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, Sapulpa.....	1910—1911
Mrs. Cora D. Hammett, Oklahoma City.....	1911—1912
Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey.....	1912—1914
Mrs. M. Alice Miller, El Reno.....	1914—1916
Mrs. Nelle C. Woodson, Walters.....	1916—1917
Mrs. Anna B. Hegler, Jenks.....	1917—1920
Mrs. Alice M. David, Oklahoma City.....	1920—1922
Mrs. Ida M. Wygant, Tulsa.....	1922—1923
Mrs. J. Myrtle Kesselring, Tulsa.....	1923—1925

### CORRESPONDING SECRETARIES

Mrs. L. C. Holzapful, Oklahoma City.....	1890-1893
Mrs. Minnie B. Storm, Oklahoma City.....	1893—1896
Mrs. N. E. Oliver, Pond Creek.....	1896—1898
Mrs. Dorothy J. Cleveland, Anadarko.....	1898—1900
Mrs. Abbie B. Hillerman, Stillwater.....	1900—1903

Mrs. Cora D. Hammett, Oklahoma City.....	1903—1906
Mrs. Vallie McKee, Shawnee.....	1906—1907
Mrs. Harriet D. Heberling, Lamont.....	1907—1911
Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey, Tulsa.....	1911—1912
Mrs. Cora D. Hammett, Oklahoma City.....	1912—1916
Mrs. Elizabeth House, Bristow.....	1916—1925

### RECORDING SECRETARIES

Miss Alma Carson, Guthrie.....	1890—1893
Mrs. Copeland, Guthrie.....	1893—1896
Mrs. Rachel E. Woodrow, Pond Creek.....	1896—1907
Mrs. Alice Blackburn, Roger Mills County.....	1907—1908
Mrs. Susie McKellop Brison, Muskogee.....	1908—1910
Mrs. Almira M. Straughen, Chandler.....	1910—1914
Mrs. Jennie L. Woods, Bristow.....	1914—1918
Mrs. Jennie Shoultz, Muskogee.....	1918—1920
Mrs. Ida B. Fleenor, Oklahoma City.....	1920—1925

### TREASURERS

Mrs. Sprigg, Kingfisher.....	1890—1891
Miss Cora Lumpkins, Guthrie.....	1891—1892
Mrs. O. P. Light, El Reno.....	1893—1895
Mrs. C. C. Cail, Oklahoma City.....	1895—1896
Mrs. M. M. Newby, Yukon.....	1896—1898
Mrs. C. L. Kelsey.....	1898—1899
Mrs. Mae French, Perkins.....	1899—1902
Mrs. Katie McWethy, Guthrie.....	1902—1914
Mrs. Almira M. Straughen, Chandler.....	1914—1918
Mrs. Josephine M. Buhl, Tulsa.....	1918—1920
Mrs. Anna D. DeWalt, Muskogee.....	1920—1925

### HONOR ROLL

Oklahoma, County Presidents and Pioneer Workers  
Prior to Statehood.

### 1901

Mrs. Emma Miller, Logan Co.	Mrs. Sue Uhl Brown, Okla-
Mrs. Susan F. Ward, Kay Co.	homa county.
Mrs. Irene B. Hester, Woods county.	Mrs. H. M. Rogers, Cleveland county.
Mrs. L. Ella Hartley, Pottawatomie county.	Mrs. Mary E. Rankin, Payne county.

Mrs. Mary C. Burhans, Canadian county.  
 Mrs. Catherine Ferguson, Lincoln county.  
 Mrs. Hattie V. Smith, Noble county.

Mrs. Mollie Adams, Greer Co.  
 Mrs. J. J. Methvin, Caddo Co.  
 Mrs. Hattie J. McKnight, Comanche county.

## 1903

Mrs. M. E. Blake, Cleveland county.  
 Mrs. Robert McCullough, Custer county.  
 Mrs. Rachel E. Woodrow, Grant county.  
 Miss Alice V. Rickle, Greer Co.  
 Mrs. Lucy Chapman, Kiowa county.  
 Mrs. M. M. Flickenger, Kingfisher.  
 Mrs. Cecil Metcalf, Kay Co.  
 Mrs. Emma Miller, Logan Co.  
 Mrs. Olive Robertson, Lincoln county.

Mrs. Josephine Klostermyer, Noble county.  
 Mrs. Angie Wilson, Oklahoma county.  
 Mrs. Rose Rodman, Pottawatomie county.  
 Mrs. Mary Rankin, Payne Co.  
 Mrs. Alice Blackburn, Roger Mills county.  
 Miss Gertrude Motter, Woods county.  
 Mrs. F. B. Crane, Woodward county.  
 Mrs. L. E. Fenn, Washita Co.

## 1907

Mrs. Anna L. Wright, Alfalfa county.  
 Mrs. Ida E. Browning, Blaine county.  
 Mrs. Anna E. Norton, Canadian county.  
 Mrs. Pauline Shackleford, Cleveland county.  
 Mrs. Nellie Sheplor, Comanche county.  
 Mrs. Robert McCullough, Custer county.  
 Mrs. Eva Piburn, Grant Co.  
 Mrs. Nelle C. Woodson, Jackson county.  
 Mrs. J. W. Drehmer, Greer county.  
 Mrs. Celesta Ball May, Kay county.

Mrs. Jennie Stewart, Kingfisher county.  
 Mrs. A. W. Holland, Kiowa county.  
 Mrs. Almira Straughen, Lincoln county.  
 Mrs. Ella S. Slade, 1907, Mrs. Kate Stafford, 1908, Logan county.  
 Mrs. Nannie Cagle, 1907, Mrs. Libbie C r a w f o r d , 1908, Noble county.  
 Mrs. Mary K. Applegate, Oklahoma county.  
 Mrs. M. A. Morrison, Pawnee county.  
 Mrs. Carrie Drake, Payne Co.  
 Mrs. Sue E. Case, Pottawatomie county.  
 Mrs. Anna L. Wright, Woods county.

## PIONEER WORKERS

Mrs. Ida May Lindsey, Okarche.  
 Mrs. N. M. Carter, Guthrie.  
 Mrs. Lucy A. M. Boyes, Perry.  
 Miss Jennie Laird, Perry.  
 Mrs. Martha E. Smith, Perry.  
 Mrs. G. W. Ball, Guthrie.  
 Mrs. Nellie Deselms, Guthrie.  
 Mrs. Lucretia Wooton, Cherokee.  
 Mrs. Florence Pickerel, Cherokee.  
 Mrs. Lillian Brandt, Cherokee.  
 Mrs. J. W. Ridley, Enid.  
 Mrs. Mary McDermitt, West Guthrie.  
 Mrs. M. A. Huchins, West Guthrie.  
 Mrs. Kate Folsom, Alva.  
 Mrs. Melissa Fellow, Alva.  
 Mrs. Mary L. Cox, Alva.  
 Mrs. Mary Johnson, Lawton.  
 Kate Anderson, Guthrie.  
 Mrs. Ella Matchett, Guthrie.  
 Mrs. Celesta Ball May, Blackwell.  
 Miss Evelyn Henley, Pond Creek.  
 Mrs. Julia Woolsey, Hennessey.  
 Mrs. Kate Hughes, Arapaho.

Mrs. Kate Stafford, Marshall.  
 Mrs. Lou A. McKnight, Roosevelt.  
 Miss Mary McDivitt, Shawnee.  
 Mrs. Laura Coppock, Stella.  
 Mrs. Gussie Southwick, Cherokee.  
 Mrs. Effie Hamlin, Ceres.  
 Mrs. Gertrude Carpenter, Ingersoll.  
 Mrs. Bernice Morgan, Lawton.  
 Miss Phoebe Tesa, Shawnee.  
 Mrs. A. H. Budd, Shawnee.  
 Mrs. E. E. Trice, Tecumseh.  
 Mrs. Laura McLain, Stillwater.  
 Mrs. Ella Hall, Stillwater.  
 Mrs. A. A. Morgan, Stillwater.  
 Mrs. Minnie Hannar, Stillwater.  
 Mrs. Sadie Gass, Driftwood.  
 Nancy McFarland, Billings.  
 Mrs. S. M. Salter, Alva.  
 Mrs. Wade Hampton, El Reno.  
 Mrs. Eva D. Garree, Noble.  
 Mrs. V. E. Young, El Reno.  
 Mrs. Docie Coxen, Bridgeport.  
 Mrs. Rose D. Rodman, Earlsboro.

### HONOR ROLL OF COUNTY PRESIDENTS AFTER STATEHOOD

(Some served one term, others longer, but the names are only recorded once.)

Mrs. Callie Wines, Alfalfa.  
 Mrs. Frances T. Johnson, Blaine.  
 Mrs. Ella J. Barnes, Canadian.  
 Mrs. Pauline Shackleford, Cleveland.  
 Mrs. Alta Stevens, Comanche.  
 Mrs. Robert McCollough, Custer.

Mrs. Alfreda A. Peterson, Garfield.  
 Mrs. Eva Piburn, Grant.  
 Mrs. Nelle C. Woodson, Jackson.  
 Mrs. Celesta Ball May, Kay.  
 Mrs. Lovina Cassel, Kiowa.  
 Mrs. Almira Straughen, Lincoln.  
 Mrs. Frank Moses, Logan.

Mrs. Lucy Belle Davis, Muskogee.  
 Mrs. Hattie K. Caster, Noble.  
 Mrs. Flora Hindman, Nowata.  
 Mrs. Mary K. Applegate, Oklahoma.  
 Mrs. M. A. Morrison, Pawnee.  
 Mrs. Laura Whipple, Payne.  
 Mrs. Morfyd Miller, Pottowatomie.  
 Mrs. Lila J. Ross, Rogers.  
 Mrs. Alice McNabb, Seminole.  
 Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey, Tulsa.  
 Mrs. Anna L. Wright, Woods.  
 Mrs. Wood Chowning, Woodward.  
 Mrs. John Stone, Stephens.  
 Mrs. Jennie Harlow, Washita.  
 Mrs. Laura Coppock, Alfalfa.  
 Mrs. Melisa Fellow, Beaver.  
 Mrs. Laura Green, Blaine.  
 Mrs. Lizzie Hadley, Caddo.  
 Mrs. Jennie L. Woods, Creek.  
 Mrs. Gertrude Stoner, Custer.  
 Mrs. Mary Stagget, Grant.  
 Mrs. L. C. Moore, Kay.  
 Mrs. Zeda Pemberton, Kingfisher.  
 Mrs. P. M. L. Ray, Logan.  
 Mrs. A. B. Hagler, Muskogee.  
 Mrs. L. M. Sherman, Noble.  
 Mrs. A. H. Budd, Pottawatomie.  
 Miss Mollie Nowlin, Rogers.  
 Mrs. Cora Leonard, Washington.  
 Mrs. Mary L. Cox, Woods.  
 Mrs. Luella Gates, Alfalfa.  
 Mrs. Della Sunderland, Blaine.  
 Mrs. Sarah J. Cannon, Canadian.  
 Mrs. Josephine Dorman, Creek.  
 Mrs. Jennie Duffy, Kingfisher.  
 Mrs. Florence D. Richardson, Noble.  
 Mrs. E. E. Trice, Pottowatomie.  
 Mrs. Jennie Case, Alfalfa.  
 Mrs. Melissa Fellow, Beaver.  
 Mrs. Lizzie Hadley, Caddo.  
 Mrs. Ida B. Stow, Jackson.  
 Mrs. Josephine Sims, Kay.  
 Mrs. Ella Shipley, Ottawa.  
 Mrs. Mary Ferguson, Pottowatomie.  
 Mrs. Daisy Parker, Beaver.  
 Mrs. Ida Browning, Blaine.  
 Mrs. Mary E. Streeter, Canadian.  
 Mrs. Kate Hughes, Custer.  
 Mrs. Mary E. Snoddy, Grant.  
 Mrs. Hattie Bush, Kay.  
 Mrs. Minnie Brown, Lincoln.  
 Mrs. Effie Hamlin, Noble.  
 Mrs. M. L. Davis, Okfuskee.  
 Mrs. Etta Larmer, Payne.  
 Mrs. Lucile Cox, Washington.  
 Mrs. Lottie Lee, Washita.  
 Mrs. Hannah Bradford, Beaver.  
 Mrs. Ida Kratz, Blaine.  
 Mrs. Amanda Godsey, Mayes.  
 Mrs. Nannie Caskey, Noble.  
 Mrs. C. R. Hazelwood, Pottowatomie.  
 Mrs. Laura Parks, Rogers.  
 Mrs. Myrtle Teeple, Washington.  
 Mrs. Hannah Ittel, Creek.  
 Mrs. D. Ruth Boudre, Blaine.  
 Mrs. Jenevieve Mead, Jackson.  
 Mrs. Ethel G. Lewis, Lincoln.  
 Mrs. Jennie Shoults, Muskogee.  
 Mrs. Lillie M. Wright, Noble.  
 Mrs. Massie Miles, Payne.  
 Mrs. Estella Dudley, Beaver.  
 Mrs. Mary E. Snoddy, Grant.  
 Mrs. Dr. Landrum, Jackson.  
 Mrs. Arzalia Ingram, Kay.  
 Mrs. Ada Staubes, Lincoln.  
 Mrs. H. B. Nelson, Muskogee.  
 Mrs. Emilie LeBus, Noble.  
 Mrs. Vella Cellum, Pottowatomie.  
 Mrs. Cora Leonard, Washington.  
 Mrs. Mineola Allen, Delaware.  
 Mrs. Mattie Hockman, Alfalfa.  
 Mrs. Ella S. Foresman, Beaver.  
 Mrs. J. R. Crouse, Garfield.

Mrs. Cora Wells, Harper.  
Mrs. Fay K. Prescot, Jackson.  
Mrs. Mae A. Thompson, Lincoln.  
Mrs. Ada Jones, Mayes.  
Mrs. W. T. Willim, Muskogee.  
Mrs. Emma McNeil, Washington.  
Mrs. R. F. Jones, Canadian.  
Mrs. Nettie F. Bracken, Creek.  
Mrs. W. H. Morrison, Delaware.  
Mrs. Mary E. Stogsdill, Garfield.  
Mrs. J. H. McNeil, Jackson.  
Mrs. C. M. Enos, Kay.  
Mrs. Ella Atwood, Kingfisher.  
Mrs. Ellen Terry, Major.  
Mrs. Ada Jones, Mayes.  
Mrs. G. M. Swanson, Muskogee.  
Mrs. Rebecca Wilkins, Noble.  
Mrs. Hattie S. Shannon, Ottawa.  
Mrs. Marguerite E. Bullock, Pottowatomie.  
Mrs. Ruth Montgomery, Tulsa.  
Mrs. Goldie Givins, Beaver.  
Mrs. C. W. Edgerton, Choctaw.  
Mrs. Lota Shepard, Dewey.  
Mrs. Elizabeth Randolph, Garfield.  
Mrs. Ruby Williams, Grant.  
Mrs. Susie Long, Harper.  
Mrs. Emma Meade, Jackson.  
Mrs. J. D. Gray, Woodward.  
Mrs. Eva M. Gilmore, Kiowa.  
Mrs. Nannie Chase, Lincoln.  
Mrs. Hettie Leonard, Logan.  
Mrs. George E. Paas, Oklahoma.  
Dr. Viola Wagoner, Osage.  
Mrs. E. E. Trice, Pottowatomie.  
Mrs. Cora McKeel, Pontotoc.  
Mrs. D. N. Hunt, Roger Mills.  
Mrs. Charlott Seaton, Woodward.  
Mrs. Dora E. Woods, Carter.  
Mrs. G. W. Biggers, Cleveland.  
Mrs. B. C. Stivers, Creek.  
Mrs. Bruce Wamble, Custer.  
Mrs. Iva Butts, Garfield.  
Mrs. W. D. Wallace, Garwin.  
Mrs. A. R. Wilson, Greer.  
Mrs. Helen Bartholomew, Harper.  
Mrs. Addie Foster, Kay.  
Mrs. Irene Martin, Kiowa.  
Mrs. Dora Buzzi, Lincoln.  
Mrs. Arda L. Davis, Muskogee.  
Mrs. W. M. Hammond, Okfuskee.  
Mrs. Ed M. Kelley, Pawnee.  
Mrs. Angelia Lawrence, Pottowatomie.  
Mrs. J. C. Sowers, Pontotoc.  
Mrs. W. C. Walker, Tillman.  
Mrs. Fannie Frye, Beaver.  
Mrs. Wesley Rogers, Blaine.  
Mrs. A. E. Baldwin, Caddo.  
Mrs. Garland Taylor, Canadian.  
Mrs. L. E. Walters, Custer.  
Mrs. Effie Bateman, Grady.  
Mrs. Hannah Epp, Harper.  
Mrs. John Myers, Muskogee.  
Mrs. Florence Smith, Kay.  
Mrs. L. W. Kennedy, McLain.  
Mrs. Clara L. Collins, Tillman.  
Mrs. Richard W. Burkhart, Tulsa.









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